THE TIMES 35P

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FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN AND JAMES BONE IN CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Scheck: "I leave it to your conscience"

LOUISE WOODWARD may *learn today whether she is* to escape the life sentence imposed on her for murdering the eight-month-old baby *Matthew Eappen.*

Judge Hiller B. Zobel, who heard emergency motions calling for her release yesterday, *said that he could publish* his decision on the Internet today. He also gave a hint that the verdict could be reduced to *one of assault and battery,* which would mean that she could be freed from Framingham prison immediately.

If he does not give his ruling today, Woodward will have to wait at least until Monday to hear her fate.

The judge's statement came after a day of intense arguments by lawyers for both the defence and prosecution in the Cambridge, Massachusetts, court where the 19-year-old British au pair was convicted last Thursday night. Woodward was not in court, but her parents were in the public gallery, as was Matthew's mother, Deborah Eappen.

The defence argued that the murder conviction was unsustainable and asked the judge *to quash it or order fresh trial.* Failing that, Woodward's lawyers called for the verdict to be reduced to manslaughter — *admitting that excluding that* possibility during the trial might have been a mistake. "I leave it to your conscience," *the defence counsel* Barry Scheck told the judge.

The prosecution countered that the second-degree murder *conviction should stand* and scoffed at suggestion that it be reduced to manslaughter, saying: "The defence should not be permitted to sample the *jury's verdict and then elect to* move for a reduction to the very charged they opposed sending to the jury in in the *first place.*"

In calling for an acquittal or retrial, Mr Scheck concentrated on autopsy photographs that had been made available to the defence only after all experts from both sides had completed their testimony. These photographs proved, Mr Scheck contended, that the skull fracture suffered by Mat*thew was an old injury that* could not have been inflicted on February 4, the day Woodward is said to have *shaken or dropped the child.*

Mr Scheck said that the "belated disclosure of this exculpatory evidence" led directly to *injustice.* "There is no argument about the fact that the skull fracture is old. With these photographs in hand there cannot be a guilty verdict."

He added that had the defence had the photographs earlier, they could have been used *in the cross-examination* of Dr Gerald Feigin, a neurosurgeon at the Boston Children's Hospital on whom the prosecution relied to argue that the skull fracture was fresh. "Not having these photographs, which showed that healing and 'lipping' had begun, impaired our ability to contradict Dr Feigin's histo*logical arguments . . . it is not* a question of how skilfully we played our cards, but whether or not we had a fair deck."

He also said that had the defence had access to "this overwhelmingly strong scientific evidence", it might not *have called Woodward to give* evidence.

Mr Scheck's Harvey Silverglate then argued that the *murder verdict should be re*duced to manslaughter, even though the defence still did not accept that she was responsible for Matthew's death.

Mr Silverglate said that even if the jury rejected the *defence case that the injury* was old, "we don't know whether they convicted her for doing something trivial that *was consistent with an acci*dent". That would tend to support the theory that the jury would prefer a verdict of *involuntary manslaughter* resulting from reckless conduct, which does not attract a life sentence.

But the prosecution lawyers Gerard Leone and Martha Coakley argued that the guilty verdict should not be

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DOUG MARKE/PAGE ONE

Carolyn Parrington, who decided to waive her anonymity to encourage other women to report rapes, at home near Leicester yesterday

Rape victim wins record damages

BY JOANNA BALE

A MOTHER of three has been awarded record damages of nearly £74,000 by a county court judge after she sued her former boss, whom she accused of raping her twice.

With costs, this will take the total bill for the company director she claimed attacked her to over £132,000. Carolyn Parrington agreed yesterday to waive *her anonymity in The Times to* encourage other women to report rapes after she left it too late to bring a criminal prosecution.

Judge Victor Hall *found* that *Ms* Parrington, 44, was indecently assaulted and raped twice by her boss, Alan *Marriott,* 43, while working as a laboratory technician for a Leicester textile company where he was production director. She said that the first attack, in February 1992, took *place in* the firm's lavatories, while Mr Marriott's wife Lorraine, who worked as his secretary, was *in a* nearby room. The second rape, she alleged, took place in her son's bedroom nine months later when Mr Marriott called unexpectedly *at her home.*

She said she was so devastated and ashamed that she could not bring herself to go to the police, which meant *that by the time she had summoned the* courage to do so, vital scientific evidence was lost.

For a conviction, a case in the *criminal courts must be proven beyond* reasonable doubt, whereas in the civil courts a plaintiff can win on a lower degree of proof with "on the balance of probabilities".

After an eight-day hearing at Leicester County Court, the judge *awarded Ms Parrington £73,776 dam*ages on Monday in a ground-breaking judgment. Mr Marriott was also ordered to pay £13,500 to the *DSS* for benefits paid to Ms Parrington because she was unable to work as a result of her ordeal, as well as an estimated £45,000 *in* costs.

Included in the damages was £30,000 of aggravated damages after Mr Marriott told the court that Ms *Parrington was promiscuous and had* consented to sex. The judge described this as "culpable behaviour" which called for a large element of aggravated damages.

The previous highest award was £50,000 by the Appeal Court in November *1995 when Linda Griffiths sued her former boss,* Arthur Williams, saying that he raped her while she was working for him as a *dishwasher at his hotel in Cornwall.*

Ms Parrington, of Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, is donating a substan*tial part of her award to her local Rape* Crisis Centre. She said: "I did not bring this case to get money for myself, but to punish him. He should be in prison, but, *like many women, I was so* traumatised by what he did to me that I could not bring myself to tell anyone, let alone go to the police straight away.

"*I felt shame and guilt, so I just* switched off and pretended that it had not happened. It has been a painful five years for me and I am still recovering *with the help of counselling and with* the support of my boyfriend."

Ms Parrington, who has a 23-year-*old daughter and 19-year-old son from* her marriage, and a three-year-old son with her current partner, suffers

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Prince heals Spencer rift with tribute to Diana's charity work

FROM ALAN HAMILTON
IN CAPE TOWN

FOR the first time since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, *the Prince of Wales last* night paid public tribute to his former wife's charity work.

Speaking at a formal dinner in Cape Town hosted by President Mandela and with the late Princess's brother, Earl *Spencer, among* the guests, the Prince offered a gesture of reconciliation towards the Spencer family, *helping to heal a rift opened* by the Earl in his acerbic address at his sister's funeral.

The Prince, in the keynote speech *of his five-day official* South African visit, told his audience in the presidential residence: "The bonds between our peoples were *dem*onstrated most clearly after the tragic and untimely death of Diana. I would like to take this opportunity to convey my *sons' and my gratitude* to all those South Africans who took *the time and trouble to express* their condolences. Their messages have been greatly appreciated, and there have been very, very many of them."

He continued: "Over the last few days I have been made *very aware of the special* importance to Africans of Diana's work to combat such things as Aids, poverty and the use of landmines. And her efforts, I know, in these areas have brought a real difference to the lives of very many people, on this continent and elsewhere."

Lord Spencer, along with all the other guests, gave the Prince a *standing* ovation at the end of his speech. Earlier, Lord Spencer said: "I have an understanding relationship *with the Prince. My family is* united in doing everything we can to help in the raising of William and Harry."

*The Prince and Lord Spen*cer, who had not met since the day after the Princess's *funeral, had a brief conversa*tion after the banquet.

At the start of the banquet, at which guests dined on medallions of ostrich with pumpkin fritters, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said in his grace: "We *thank you for the* life of our President. We thank you for the life of Mother Teresa. We thank you for the life of Princess Diana. And we thank you for the visit of the Prince of Wales."

The Prince's speech caused some confusion before its delivery: An advance text issued to reporters earlier in the day contained the *tribute* to the Princess, but in a *second* version distributed immediately before the banquet, most of the *references had been removed. When the Prince* spoke, he restored almost all of the original.

Last night, the Prince spoke *of his immense pleasure* at being in South Africa, and paid tribute to Mr Mandela. "*What I have seen here of* people working together with determination and confidence for a brighter future, despite all the *many* awesome challenges which have to be faced, sends me away immensely *heartened, and confident that* South Africa is firmly on the road to success.

"But what has heartened me most, Mr President, has been listening to you during the course of the conversations I have been *fortunate* to have with you. If I may say so, you have a huge gift for storytelling in the great African tradition. *But you also* have a unique gift for the kind of forgiveness that transforms, redeems and renews."

At a banquet in Durban last night the Prince said that he had been given so many spears as gifts that he could start a Zulu war of his own.

Police seek Fiat, page 19

Royal Opera could face bankruptcy within week

BY NICHOLAS WOOD

"If Chris Smith can get everyone in opera under one roof surely we can manage my parents for Christmas"

THE Royal Opera company could be forced to declare itself bankrupt within a week, *Lord* Chadlington, its chairman, told MPs yesterday.

In a graphic warning of the *extent of the crisis at Covent* Garden, Lord Chadlington disclosed that he was having *daily talks with benefactors in* an attempt to keep it afloat.

He said that he had until November 12 to present a *rescue package to the Arts* Council. Covent Garden is losing £4.7 million a year and its difficulties have been in*tensified by its closure pend*ing a two-year redevelopment.

Lord Chadlington's revelations came as Gerald Kauf*man, chairman of the Culture,* Media and Sports select committee, suggested that the lifeblood of the country's premier opera house was "dribbling away all the time".

Lord Chadlington told the MPs: "We have looked at two or three options involving third parties, but to give details would be wrong. If we cannot get funds into the Royal Opera House in the *very short term, the probabili*ty is the house will become insolvent."

Lord Chadlington, who has been chairman a year, said that only after recent management changes had it been *possible to get clear and* accurate figures about the company. It had spent a year *without a finance director.*

Trying to get a grip on the figures had been like "trying to catch a falling star. They *changed every month in the* most alarming way."

He said that if the opera company continued its activities *while insolvent its direc*tors could be guilty of "wrongly trading". But it might be possible to stitch *together* a rescue plan. "It is going to be extremely difficult. We have a small opportunity."

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L A N V I N
L H O M M E

هكذا من الاصل

Fluoride in the water would put bite into toothless debate

POLITICAL SKETCH

On the London Underground on Monday, alighting at Westminster Station, your *sketchwriter* spotted the Liberal Democrat MP for Carshalton & Wallington, Tom Brake. "Must rush," he said. "I'm off to tell a meeting about my teeth."

I expressed mild alarm. He explained. "My dentist has been overwhelmed by the metalwork in my mouth." I looked baffled. "It's a meeting of the British Fluoridation Society," he said.

"I want to tell them that, if only the water had been fluoridated when I was a boy, I would not have these dreadful teeth." Mr Brake ventured a shy smile.

Taking a quick peek into the MP's mouth, which was open at the time, I judged this harsh; but the incisors were ragged, the canines grey and the molars a terrible mess.

How much of his dental history did Mr Brake plan to offer the meeting? Before I could ask, he was gone.

We recount the tale in no spirit of mockery. There are only limited areas on which an MP can speak with passion, sincerity, genuine interest and full possession of all the facts, and we should be grateful if they stick to these. If Brake confines himself in debate to the subject of his own teeth he will never be contradicted.

Nor is this intended as critical of Mr Brake. We who have sat through tedious hours in which MPs elevate their own chatter to the status of leading testimony in national debate are relieved that at least Tom Brake has a sense of humour about himself. But is it not a little-noticed privilege of being an elected politician that you are paid to rehearse, amid all the gothic splendour of the *Palace* of Westminster, the sort of conversation others have while hanging out the washing, or on buses? Who else gets a salary, a chorus of "hear-hear", a paragraph in *Hansard* or a mention on *Yesterday in Parliament*, for the anecdote, quack-theorising and half-ignorant saloon-bar chat that characterise Commons discourse? Only newspaper columnists are luckier.

My secretary, Mrs Wright, has a friend with a troubled dental history. "Wendy could write a book about her teeth," Mrs Wright once confided. Wendy could, but who would publish? Yet if we elected Wendy to Parliament the story of her teeth could fill volumes of *Hansard*.

With Tom and Wendy in mind I looked in on MPs yesterday to hear Richard Spring (C, Suffolk W) introduce a Bill with no hope of *making it into law: the Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill.*

Mr Spring was already in mid-flow. "... so I got out of my Volvo Estate to examine the damage. I was *horrified* ..." The MP was telling one of those interminable motoring stories. All around him, MPs nodded interestedly.

"... The chassis was buckled. The car was a write-off. Now, if a bull-bar *can do that* to a Volvo Estate, imagine the damage it could do ..."

Richard Spring's purpose was noble, intended to save lives. He is one of a brave and determined band of backbenchers from all parties who are campaigning for the prohibition of "bull-bars".

Doubtless these accessories can be lethal. But now the European Commission knows about the *state of Mr Spring's* Volvo, they must act at once.

After Spring had finished, Tory Education Spokesman Stephen Dorrell opened a *debate* on Government proposals for student finance.

He spoke well but it was his audience which interested me. A great man, often too busy to attend such occasions, slipped in. Soon listening intently was Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor and the founder member of the new Euro-friendly "Conservative Mainstream".

It is not yet known whether Mr Dorrell is a sympathiser.

Labour and Lib Dems try to reverse Eurosceptic tide

Brown attacks bogus patriotism of the Right, reports **Philip Webster**

A NATIONAL campaign to counter Eurosceptic sentiment in Britain was launched by the Government and the Liberal Democrats last night, as Gordon Brown attacked the "bogus" patriotism of the Right.

Tony Blair, senior ministers and Liberal Democrat leaders took the first steps towards to what may eventually become a cross-party coalition for a "yes" campaign in a single currency referendum after the next election.

At only the second meeting of the Labour-Liberal Cabinet committee on the constitution, the party leaders agreed that the British presidency of the European Union, starting in January, should aim to build a "national consensus" that Britain gained from Europe and Europe benefited from Britain.

The Chancellor fired an opening shot by rejecting right-wing claims that anti-Europeanism was pro-British, as he delivered some of his most enthusiastic remarks yet about the prospects of Britain eventually being part of economic and monetary union.

He declared, in the annual *Spectator* lecture, that a pro-European consensus on the single currency was already being built, and added that Britain had always thrived when it was outward-looking and internationalist rather than isolationist.

His lecture came hours after the Cabinet committee meeting attended by Mr Blair, Paddy Ashdown, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio, and leading Liberal Democrats was dominated by a debate about the need for Britain to take a more positive role.

Mr Blair's spokesman said after the meeting that both sides had agreed that they had a shared interest in "making Britain less Eurosceptic" and that a successful British presidency would help towards that goal by showing the British people the benefits of Britain being a strong and leading player in Europe.

The campaign would try to show that Euroscepticism was not the way to advance the national interest, officials said. Persuading the public of the potential benefits of a single currency went hand in hand with engendering a more positive approach.

"Paddy Ashdown is a significant figure. If you have got people like him and his colleagues, and Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine arguing a case, then people will respond to that, providing the argument is right."

A Liberal Democrat source added: "We agreed that one of our aims would be to start to build a national consensus, a grand coalition, behind the view that Britain benefits from Europe, and Europe benefits from British membership."

Mr Brown confirmed his reputation as one of Labour's foremost pro-Europeans by arguing there would be nothing unpatriotic about going into a successful single currency. In a largely philosophical speech about "Britishness", Mr Brown said the British way was not to retreat into insularity and defensive isolationism but to be outward-looking and adaptable.

"Our history shows not just that we have always been a European power but that Britain has been European for good pragmatic reasons. So we should dismiss the notion that our history suggests being British is synonymous with being anti-European."

The Chancellor accused a Conservative Party which normally took a pragmatic view of British national interest of putting national economic interests second to ideology.

"Previous Conservative Governments have sensibly supported the pooling of sovereignty not just in Nato but in the single market, where it is in the British interest to do so."

For years the Right had claimed it was the only patriotic party, and scorned patriotic people on the Left as being anti-British. This bogus dividing line had been swept aside. "The old caricature — patriotic right versus disloyal left — is exposed as hollow, a card that can never be played again."

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Letters, page 23

SUMMIT HITS NEW HEIGHTS

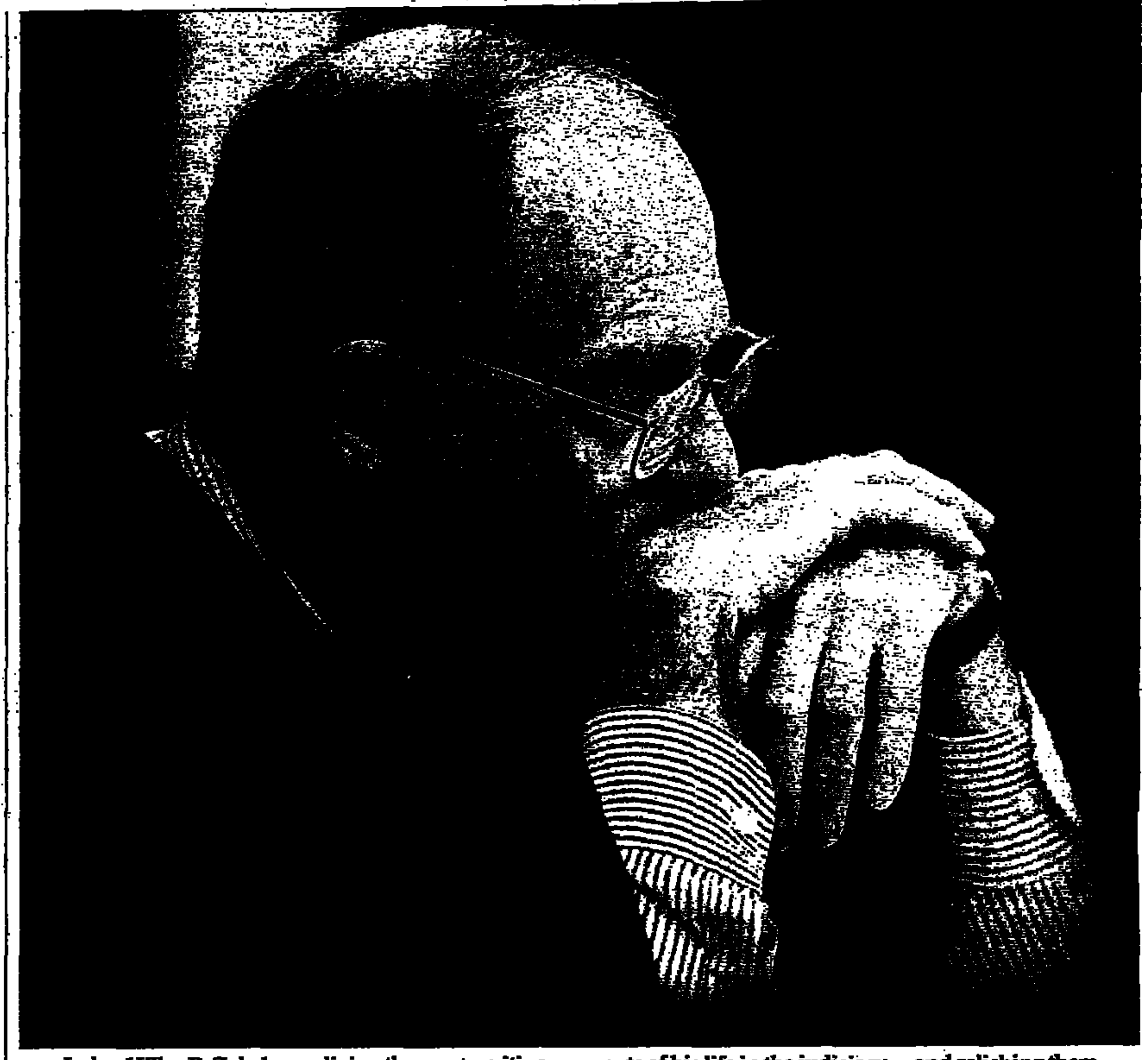
CANARY WHARF tower in London's Docklands is to host this week's Anglo-French summit as part of Tony Blair's drive to update Britain's image (Polly Newton writes).

The Prime Minister will meet his French counterpart, Lionel Jospin, and President Chirac in surroundings which are a world away from previous summit venues such as Chequers and Downing Street. Discussions will be held on two floors of the tower hundreds of feet above the Thames. Big open spaces have been divided into meeting rooms and furnished by British designers commissioned by the Government.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that careful thought had gone into the setting. "The theme that we have been developing is the idea of two modern nations working together into the millennium. The choice of venue is designed to reflect this."

A government insider said: "The French have got their Défense [the business area of Paris], and we thought we would show them what we could do."

BARRY CHIN / REUTERS



Judge Hiller B. Zobel, now living the most exciting moments of his life in the judiciary — and relishing them

Old lion who is enjoying his chance to lap up the cream

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

AS PROTESTERS chant ceaselessly for Louise Woodward outside his concrete courthouse in Cambridge, as television stations debate the minutiae of the case, and as callers from all over the world jam the telephone lines to his chambers, Judge Hiller B. Zobel has been basking in the attention like an old lion in the sun.

It is fair to say that Judge Zobel, 64, is now living the most exciting moments of his life. Not often does a grey-haired provincial figure attract the world's gaze. Immodest to an almost endearing extent, Judge Zobel is, in the words of a prosecutor here, "just lapping it up like a cat does cream".

His friends say that he spent the weekend at his spacious home in a Boston suburb. Inside, in his book-lined library, rich in volumes on American history, he will have focused hard on the fate of Woodward. According to court officials, he also had a sack-load of post driven to his home, all letters of support for Woodward. "There's a likelihood that he read a fair few," an official said.

Although he did not receive the motion from the defence, and the counter-motion from the prosecution, until Monday afternoon, the arguments made by both sides were sufficiently obvious for him to have been working on a decision by as early as last Saturday. A prosecutor who has worked with him for years said: "There is no question that old Hiller is in his element. That's a good thing, because we wouldn't want a nervous judge, or a tetchy judge, or a shrinking violet, who buckled under all the attention and lost his focus."

Widely regarded as one of the most erudite judges in Massachusetts, Judge Zobel, a former Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, read law at Harvard Law School, from where he graduated with distinction in 1959.

Born in New York, to a German Jewish family, Judge Zobel was appointed to the state bench in 1979 by Governor Edward King. He arouses strong passions that are as often negative as they are in his favour. Many local lawyers regard him as a cantankerous maverick, who thinks he is cleverer than everyone else. Others see these traits in a positive light, describing him as fiercely independent, "unafraid of the local political establishment", and "faithful to *his* principles alone, not those of other, lesser people".

Judge Zobel also has a well-documented *dislike for juries*, as can be seen from an article he wrote in *American Heritage* magazine in 1995, in which he said that the judicial system expects "average untrained people to absorb evi*dence for days and weeks on* subjects entirely foreign to them without explanation". The article ended: "Perhaps the jury, to paraphrase what Churchill once said of democracy, is the worst mechanism *for trying cases except for any* alternative."

Judge to give Internet ruling

Continued from page 1

overturned, nor should a retrial be ordered simply because the judge thought the jury had "got it wrong". Ms Coakley also rejected the defence claims that its late access to the autopsy pictures had changed the course of the trial. X-rays studied during the trial were a much better guide to the injuries than any photograph.

Finally, Mr Leone argued against reducing the charge to manslaughter, saying: "If the jurors accepted Louise Woodward's story of what happened on February 4, they would have acquitted." For the verdict to be overturned, Woodward would have to produce a new version of events.

Towards the end of Mr Leone's argument, the judge asked him whether he considered Woodward's behaviour to fit the criteria for "assault and battery". Mr Leone said that it did.

Under Massachusetts law, the judge can reduce the charge against Woodward to any lesser offence he thinks fit. If he were to reduce it to assault and battery, Woodward would face a maximum sentence of 2½ years in a "house of correction" — not a state jail.

At the end of the hearing, Judge Zobel said that when he published his ruling, it would be broadcast on the Internet: www.lawyersweekly.com/matreass.htm#latest

Dismay in Elton at news of delay

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

GROANS of disappointment from supporters gathered in the pub in Louise Woodward's home village greeted the news that the Boston judge would not give an immediate decision on her fate.

Villagers packed into the bar of The Rigger pub in the village of Elton, in Cheshire closely followed the complicated legal manoeuvrings in the Boston courtroom via satellite television in the public bar. Although campaigners were less optimistic than they were before the verdict last week, many hoped for an indication from the bench that the teenager will soon be home.

Eight domestic and American television crews caught the mood in the cramped bar swinging under the hot lights from expectancy, to disappointment and then a grim resolve for a much lengthier campaign to free Woodward. For some, like her close friend Kate Hagan, 19, there were tears again.

Miss Hagan, wearing a yellow "Free Louise" T-shirt, said: "It is like they are playing a time game with Louise. You can only take so much. We will have to wait for the next thing to happen. It is *very distressing for us all*. We are going to fight even harder now for Louise's release.

"It is a case of fighting, fighting, fighting until we bring her home."

Woman wins record rape damages

Continued from page 1

flashbacks, nightmares, suicidal thoughts, sleeplessness and weight loss which has been diagnosed as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Her solicitor, Chris Greenwell of Tollers, Leicester, said: "This is a record amount of damages for a case of this kind. We were delighted that the judge was prepared to give a higher award than the Court of Appeal, which gave the previous record-breaking damages."

Ms Parrington, who married at the age of 18, says she was naive and vulnerable when Mr Marriott began sexually harassing her in 1991. She said: "I was already in an extremely fragile emotional state because I had just split up from my husband. Alan knew this and started sexually harassing me when we were alone together in the lab.

"He would ask quite disgusting questions. He also grabbed my breasts and bottom. When I objected, he laughed. He thought it was all a game."

One day, in February 1992, Mr Marriott followed Ms Parrington into a lavatory adjoining her laboratory, used only by her and her colleague. It was there that he raped her, she says.

It was only when she met her current partner in 1993 that she was able to begin to talk about what had happened. She left the company in December 1993 and a doctor referred her to a Rape Crisis Centre. She underwent counselling before making a statement to the police in 1994, but decided against pursuing a criminal case due to lack of forensic evidence.

She now works as a waitress. She said: "Men in suits in positions of authority still frighten me so I cannot work in an office."

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The house on the exclusive Sandbanks peninsula, left, overlooks Poole harbour. Right, Boycott's £600,000 Yorkshire farmhouse

Boycott is declaring himself for the South

Philip Delves Broughton on the surprise as Yorkshire hero ups stumps for Bournemouth

NELSON would have had to step off his column and amble down the Mall before Geoffrey Boycott left Yorkshire. The impossible, however, now looks inevitable. England and *Yorkshire's doughtiest* opening bat is set to sell up and move South. Not just down to Sheffield. He is going all the way down to Bournemouth in Dorset — in cricketing terms, a minor county.

Mr Boycott, who has parlayed the bloody-mindedness he showed in front of the stumps into a succesful career as a cricket commentator, has put Pear Tree Farm, in the village of Woolley, near Wakefield, on the market for a reported £600,000 through Hodson's estate agents in Wakefield.

Even in a county renowned for the forthrightness of its residents, Mr Boycott's reluctance to keep his own council has made him as many enemies as friends. Nonetheless, he remains as potent a symbol of Yorkshire as the eponymous batter pudding.

Speaking on the television company TWI, for which he is commentating in Pakistan at the moment, Mr Boycott said: "This rumour about me leaving Yorkshire has been going round for six months now. It's got nothing to do with me." Mark Adams, of Hodson's, *however*, confirmed that Mr Boycott had asked to sell his house by private treaty.

He has bought a £400,000 property in Bournemouth to share with his partner, Anne Wyatt. The cricket umpire *Dickie Bird*, a *fellow* Yorkshireman, said: "He is moving and going down to Bournemouth with Anne. He is a Yorkshireman through and through, which is why I am very surprised he is going.

"I would think he could move anytime now because they have already got a house in Bournemouth where they are ready to move in," he added yesterday.

The vicar of *St* Peter's church in Woolley, the Rev Catherine Ogle, said: "It's lovely to have a celebrity in the village but sadly he never came to church. We will be sorry to see him go though."

Others in the village were not so sorry. David Rowbotham, owner of the local golf club, said: "He never partook in village activities. But that's his choice."

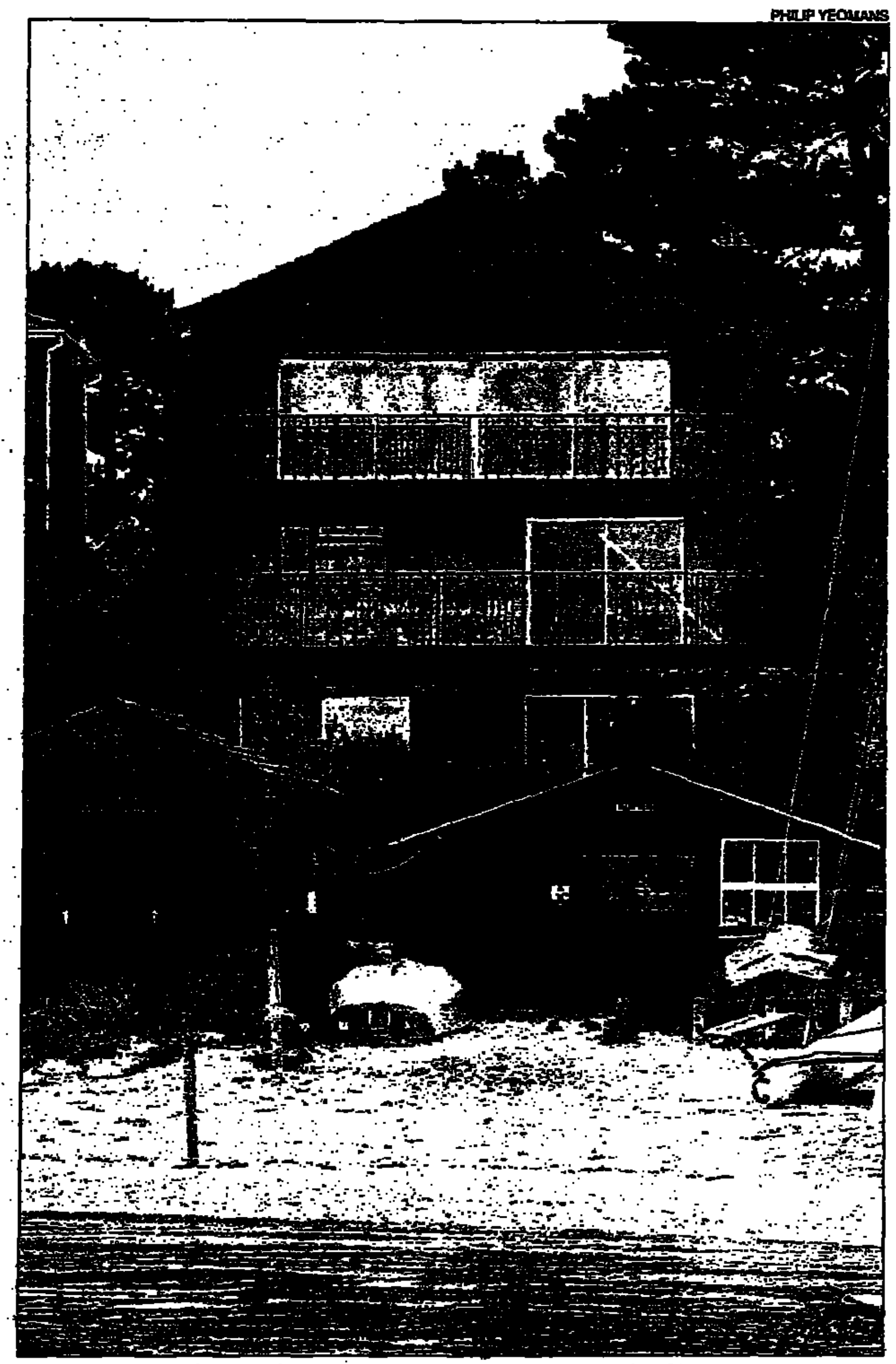
Mr Boycott was born in the west Yorkshire pit village of Fitzwilliam. It was at Headingley in Leeds that he celebrated his greatest triumph, his 100th first class century, against the Australians in 1977.

Bernard Poulter, landlord of the Sir Geoffrey Boycott pub in Dewsbury, where they believe Mr Boycott is overdue a knighthood, said: "*Though it* is sad he is leaving us, I assume he will maintain the warm feeling for Yorkshire in his heart when he starts resting his hat elsewhere."

Mr Poulter's assumption is safe. Only three things are said to make the stony-hearted Boycott go weak: his mother, *his bat and his county. Last* July, when testifying in the libel suit brought by the cricketers Ian Botham and Alan Lamb against Imran Khan, Mr Boycott, having given his Yorkshire address said: "That's in England."

George Carman, QC, one of the barristers in the case, *asked him: "It hasn't declared* independece yet?" Mr Boycott replied: "We like to think we're a bit different."

PHILIP YEOMANS



Boycott will share the £400,000 house in Bournemouth with Anne Wyatt

Bishop backs homosexual sex for over-16s

Harries's announcement plunges Church into crisis that will rival women priests, reports **Ruth Gledhill**

THE Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, plunged the Church of England into a new crisis over homosexuality last night when he called for the age of *homosexual* consent to be lowered from 18 to 16.

Bishop Harries, chairman of the Church of England bishops' *group on* homosexuality, is backing proposals to lower the age of homosexual consent from 18 to 16. Bishop Harries, a leading adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, admitted last night that he had changed his mind on the issue and is now publicly advocating an equalising of the age of *consent.*

While other bishops back him privately, Bishop Harries is the first of the current diocesan bishops in the Church of England to speak out publicly in support of lowering the age of consent. His intervention comes as Parliament prepares to debate the issue next spring. A free *vote will be allowed.*

Although the amendment is expected to be passed by the Commons, in the House of Lords, a more conservative body, support from the bench of bishops will be critical. On the last *occasion the* issue came up in Parliament, in 1994, most bishops voted for an age of homosexual consent of 21 or 18.

Three bishops voted that it should be lowered to 16 but only one of these, Dr David Jenkins of Durham, who is now retired, was from the Church of England. The other two were the *Right Rev* Richard Holloway, of the Scottish episcopal church, and the Right Rev Rowan Williams, bishop of Monmouth in the Church in Wales.

Significantly, Bishop Williams *is emerging as a* favourite to succeed the Right Rev Roy Williamson in Southwark, an appointment which would give added impetus to the church's pro-gay liberal wing if it goes through.

A spokesman for Bishop Harries said that out of the current house of bishops, Bishop Harries was the first bishop to take this line publicly. "The fact that he is in charge of the bishops' group *on homosexuality* makes in highly significant," he said.

Bishop Harries made his comments on Monday night at a private meeting of Berskhire clergy from his diocese at St George's House, Windsor, a residential study centre at Windsor Castle which has the Duke of Edinburgh as its vice-chairman.

In an interview with *The Times* yesterday, Bishop Harries enlarged on his views. He said: "I do support the lowering of the age of consent for homosexuals to 16. The last time it came before Parliament, I supported an age of consent of 18. I have changed my mind.

"Before, I took the view that between the ages of 16 and 18 a person's sexuality was still *fluid and unformed*, and that it was important for them to be given the chance to develop heterosexual relationships if that is what they were capable of.

"But recent evidence from the European Court, the British Medical Association and elsewhere suggestes speople's sexuality is well formed by the age of 16. And even if there is still a doubt about it, the idea of prosecuting people of 17 for having sex *really is* very unproductive."

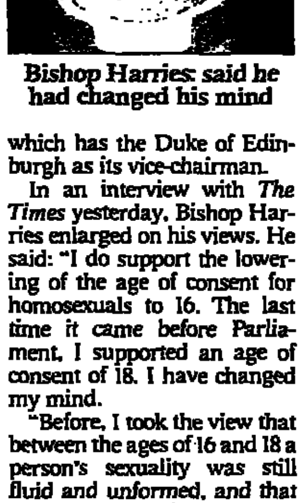
Bishop Harries said he did not support homosexual marriages or blessings. But he also considered the controversial Clause 28, which prohibits local authorities from promoting homosexuality, to be "disastrous" and wants to see it abolished.

The bishops are expected to debate the issue at their next meeting in January. This will be shortly before the issue comes before Parliament. It is expected to come up as an amendment to the Crime and Disorder Bill, expected to be introduced by Jack Straw in the next few weeks. An amendment is likely to be tabled *during the report stage of the* Bill in the spring for the age of homosexual consent to be lowered to 16. The Government has announced it will allow a free vote.

Supporters are thought to *include* William Hague, who voted in favour of lowering the age of consent to 16 in 1994.

Bishop Harries was condemned by evangelicals within the established church, which is facing a split over the issue more serious than that threatened by women priests. Already, one parish, Jesmond in Newcastle, has declared *itself out of communion* with its new diocesan bishop, the Right Rev Martin Wharton, because of his statement that homosexuality within a loving, permanent relationship "is no sin".

As the church leadership pursues an increasingly liberal line, other parishes are expected to follow suit.



Bishop Harries: said he had changed his mind

French cricket for Benaud

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

RICHIE BENAUD, the much-parodied cricket commentator and former Australian captain, has accepted an invitation to become the honorary patron of France Cricket, the *new governing body of* the sport across the Channel.

Benaud, 67, who has French ancestry and lives on the Riviera for six months of the year, said he was delighted to accept the post as titular benefactor of an organisation of 38 clubs and 800 players. "I am looking forward to be able to attend some events next summer, *and fit in with* whatever the national committee thinks best for cricket in France."

The offer was made by Simon Hewitt, the captain of the French national team, *which has won* the European Federation Championship for the last two years, playing against all the continental countries — *except* for England, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark and Holland.

Hewitt said that he had heard from Ian Chappell, the former Australian captain, at the International Cricket Conference *meeting* in Malaysia earlier this year that Benaud, who won 63 caps for Australia, had French ancestors.

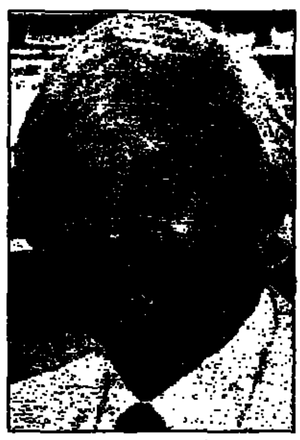
"When *I* went to *the* NatWest final at Lord's in September, I asked to meet Richie, and he provisionally accepted the offer," he said. On October 18, the French cricketers voted to secede from the French Baseball Federation and set up their own organisation, France Cricket, and Benaud's post as patron *was approved by acclamation* at that meeting.

Yesterday Benaud was on his way from Sydney to Brisbane to commentate on the Test match between Australia and New Zealand. He said that *he would be happy to* offer advice on coaching and *development, particularly to* some of the 200 Frenchmen now playing the game. Hewitt explained: "We had to give him details of the current structure here before he agreed to our offer."

There is a national club competition and the French team *has* to *include at least* seven people who hold French passports and three of them must have been born in the country. But Hewitt said: "We currently have at least five or six players who were born in this country representing the national team.

"There is a great deal of curiosity about cricket *here and quite a lot of coverage in* newspapers and television, although we have to explain what it's about. We even have cricket on the curriculum of a school in Picardy. There are four or five French bowlers who are really good, and the French take naturally to fielding. Batting is not so easy."

France, who won a silver *medal in cricket at the* 1900 Olympics, will be taking part in the European championship in the Hague next year, when all the continental countries will be participating. England will send an amateur side.



Benaud: delighted with his new role

Formula One tobacco ban stalls

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government *has reluctantly* decided to abandon its plan to ban tobocco sponsorship of Formula One motor racing. *Instead* it will press the sport's governing body to introduce a voluntary code to reduce the level of advertising at racetracks worldwide.

Frank Dobson, the *Health Secretary,* announced in June that the Government would ban all sports sponsorship by tobacco companies without exception as part of the drive to reduce smoking. However, after long negotiations with the Fédération International d'Automobile, Tessa Jowell, the Public Health Minister, has concluded that it would be counter-productive to bring in the ban for Formula One, *which derives* about £100 million a year from the tobacco industry.

A *ban* has been included in the draft for the European Directive on *controlling* tobacco sponsorship, but yesterday Ms Jowell sent a letter to her opposite numbers in the EU advising them that it would be best to exclude Formula One. British representatives at a meeting of member state officials explained that there was a danger that a ban would almost certainly result in the FIA moving all its races out of the EU to Eastern Europe and Asia, where tobacco advertising controls are much weaker.

The directive is due to be discussed by Ministers at a Council meeting in Brussels on December 4, but passing it could be a priority for the British presidency of the EU during the first six *months of next year*.

"We think tobacco sponsorship can be phased out in other sports over a period, but it just won't work with Formula One," the Health Department said last night. "The sport is worldwide and can move anywhere. With a ban we run the risk of *driving Formula One to places where* there is less of a tobacco-control regime. We can't stop television pictures coming back from the Grand Prix and there is a very real risk of there being more tobacco exposure in the pictures. We are therefore seeking a total exemption for Formula One from the directive.

"We have been in close and urgent talks with the FIA and are looking for a tough voluntary code on a global scale, which will reduce advertising worldwide not just in Europe. This might include agreements on smaller logos or even doing away with some logos completely. We want to reduce the amount of tobacco visibility in the sport. The FIA is keen to co-operate and this therefore seems the best way of going about it.

"Ideally, we would like to ban sponsorship, but we are living in the real world and we are trying to find a solution to a unique problem in a unique sport."

The department said it had looked at *technology that would make it possible to* blot logos off television pictures, but had decided this would not work either.

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THIS SATURDAY, FATHER CHRISTMAS WILL ENTER THE HARRODS BUILDING IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED WAY IMAGINABLE. THE DOOR.

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Republican terrorist group may be planning new attack

By **Martin Fletcher**
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE republican terrorist group responsible for Friday's failed bombing in Londonderry has gained access to Semtex and is expected to launch another attack before the weekend, senior security sources said last night.

The Continuity IRA, once dismissed as little more than a joke, appeared to be receiving assistance from a few rebellious IRA hardliners and now posed the single deadliest threat to the peace process, the sources said. "They are reckoned to be a real threat and the security forces are acting accordingly," one official said.

"The Provisional IRA is worried about them and we are worried about them — more and more worried about them," another said. With Republican Sinn Fein, widely regarded as Continuity IRA's political wing, holding its annual conference in Dublin this weekend, a further morale-boosting attack was "extremely likely if they can get it together", the second official added.

The sources said the Londonderry bomb, left in a government office building on the eve of Hillary Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland, consisted of 1.5lb of Semtex and two gallons of petrol and would have caused a massive explosion had the detonator not failed to ignite it. Merely carrying such a device through crowded streets was "criminal in the extreme", an official said.

But equally alarming was the fact that Continuity IRA had, for the first time, used Semtex, previously possessed only by the IRA. Security sources agreed this probably came from an IRA stockpile and blamed hardliners opposed to the ceasefire.

They are confident that the IRA leadership did not approve the transfer. IRA leaders viewed the development "with alarm" because it endangered the peace process.

Continuity IRA dates from a Sinn Fein split in 1986, but became militarily active only after the IRA's 1995 ceasefire. It bombed the Killyhevlin hotel in Fermanagh last year, and Markethill, Co Armagh, in September, and has mounted several unsuccessful attacks.

These have raised its profile at a time when there is significant opposition to the ceasefire among grassroots members of the IRA. As yet, security officials see no evidence of large-scale defections, but say there are worrying signs of a "fraying at the edges" in areas such as South Armagh and Londonderry.

Culture clash over opera tours

Critics say the Smith plan would be bad for London and would cost more money, reports **Dalya Alberge**

ONE of the Royal Opera House's most powerful benefactors expressed grave concern yesterday about the future of opera and ballet in London, after news that the English National Opera may have to share the Covent Garden home of the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet.

Lord Sainsbury, president of the Royal Opera House's appeal and chairman of the Royal Ballet governors, said: "It's a sad day that we have to go back to one opera house in London." The ROH's former head, Sir Jeremy Isaacs, and the financial controller of Opera North also criticised the proposals by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary.

Lord Sainsbury was particularly anxious that ballet could be overshadowed by two opera companies, and that there could be a reduction in the number of dance performances. The idea of sending companies out on tour for two thirds of the year was "pie in the sky", he said. "To say we'll get the companies touring is the most expensive thing you can do."

London would be "the poorer for it", he said. "It means fewer performances of the lyric arts. It puts London's comparison with other main cities in a poor light. Paris has five theatres and Berlin has three.

"I'm very anxious that the sharing of performances means that, whilst there is no more opera than now, there is no less ballet than now. The Royal Ballet should continue its share of half the evenings. If there's any diminishing in the opportunities for them to perform at the ROH, the governors will have to consider their position. It would affect support for the ballet if there's less ballet, whether from me or anyone else."

Lord Sainsbury blamed the ROH's problems on inadequate funding by the last Government, but acknowledged that the situation could not continue in its present form.

Sir Jeremy described the plans as "tragic and catastrophic" and said that taking the companies on tour would dramatically increase spending. A week's tour to Manchester some years ago had cost the Royal Opera £300,000.

"These proposals are patently and self-evidently far more expensive than the present state of affairs," he said. "They could not be done on the present level of funding — only if the funds were taken to a greatly enhanced level. Money should be applied to underpinning the viability of two exceptional companies instead of on rail fares, hotels, subsistence and landladies up and down the country."

Opera North's financial controller, David Hogan, said that its tours, with 130 people in three productions to five towns last spring, cost £469,000. The box-office income was £265,000: "The greatest cost is the principal artists, closely followed by subsistence. With a bigger company, their subsistence is going to be huge. The problem is that when you tour, you tour to small theatres.

"ENO and the RO's choruses are too large and they would never fit on the stages. They are used to larger stages. If they're only at Covent Garden for one-third of the year, they will need large choruses and orchestras in the home base but they wouldn't all be able to tour."

The prospect of two opera companies encroaching on their territory is unnerving for the regional companies. Opera North covers the whole of the North of England. "Any eating into the area would be distructive for us," said Mr Hogan.

Warren Smith, general manager of the Grand Theatre in Leeds, saw the proposals as a "rethink" and said: "The proof of the pudding is in the eating. When Opera North was established 18 years ago, people were very dubious. The fact was, it proved there is an audience. The question now is, how big can that audience get?"

Simon Jenkins, page 22
Arts, page 39

Hogan, left, and Isaacs, who objects to spending on "rail fares, subsistence and landladies"

SIMON WALKER

Royal Ballet dancers rehearsing for a tour with choreographer Ashley Page

ENO fears a drastic cut in performances

By **Damian Whitworth**

THE news that the English National Opera may have to move into Covent Garden with the Royal Opera was greeted with dismay at the Coliseum, the company's current home. The greatest fear was that the number of performances would be drastically cut.

Staff, who learnt of Chris Smith's proposal in the press yesterday morning, were called to an emergency meeting at lunchtime, where they were briefed by Paul Daniel, the ENO's music director.

Members of the company said afterwards that the atmosphere had been "remarkably relaxed", considering the shock of the announcement. They said that they would cooperate with the review but warned that a move could destroy the unique "family" of the company and its audience. At present the ENO stages at least 190 performances a year, which would almost certainly have to be substantially reduced if the company had to share.

"The ENO has always been a strong family company. The audience are extremely loyal and we do more performances than any other company in Britain," said David Dyer, a member of the chorus. "In this house they can come and see an opera for £2.50, the same as a pint in some places in the West End."

Mr Dyer was sceptical about the suggestion that the ENO would give more performances outside the capital if it had to share a home. "We would love to tour more, but it's very expensive." He pointed out that excellent regional opera companies already existed.

Helen Robertson-Barker, of the music staff, said job cuts were not mentioned at the meeting. "Nobody said a word about jobs. Everybody just wants the identity of the company to be preserved."

Concern over funding for hi-tech redesign

By **Dalya Alberge**

THE architect of the Royal Opera House's redevelopment insisted yesterday that the £214 million scheme was running on time and within budget, and that it would be able to accommodate another company with ease. Insiders, however, expressed doubts because tens of millions of pounds had still to be raised.

Although Jeremy Dixon, the architect, said that everything was running to plan, one observer said that "fundraising has hit the buffers". The ROH has found itself trying to raise cash from the same potential donors as the Bankside Tate Gallery, Sadler's Wells and others.

The redevelopment meant that the ROH would boast the most sophisticated technology of any British theatre, said John Seekings, development director. "We've had a Victorian opera house with Dickensian facilities. We've gone straight from 19th-century operations to 21st-century operations. We think it will make others in Europe green with envy."

Working practices were also antiquated, although many have been negotiated. In the old house, said Mr Seekings, staff on shifts were required to work 24 hours a day for seven days a week, stripping out the lighting, scenery, props and hangings in time for the next performance or rehearsal. Because everything was handled manually, loaded on and off lorries and from storerooms, there was the risk of damage. In the new house, a night crew will not be needed.

The mechanisation, including motorised hoists, wheeled platforms and carousels, has reduced the "turnaround time" from six hours to two-and-a-half hours. The main carousel, for example, will mean that for up to five productions can be stored above the stage.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP faces insurance and MoT charges

Ann Clwyd, the Labour MP for Cynon Valley, has been charged with driving without insurance after being stopped for allegedly driving through a red traffic light. The former member of the Shadow Cabinet is also charged with driving without a valid MoT certificate and three other motoring offences.

Mrs Clwyd, 60, was stopped in Cardiff in February. She did not appear before city magistrates. The case was adjourned until next month because of her "working commitments".

Porter case ends

The appeal by Dame Shirley Porter and others against a £31 million surcharge imposed for their role in the Westminster council "homes for votes" affair was unfair and procedurally flawed, her lawyers said at the end of a 23-day hearing. The three High Court judges may delay their decision until after Christmas.

Fayed deal

A caretaker and assistant stalker on Mohamed Al Fayed's Balnagown Castle estate in the Highlands, who claims he was dismissed after taking his first day off work for two years, dropped his case for unfair dismissal. Matt Elliot, 56, reached a settlement believed to be for £4,500 the day before a tribunal hearing.

£155,000 for RSI

A former bank clerk who will never work again because of repetitive strain injury (RSI) has been awarded £155,000 in compensation by a London county court. Michelle Mulligan, 43, started suffering from the upper-limb disorder after her workload quadrupled at the Midland Bank in Gillingham, Kent, five years ago.

Birth award lost

A woman who suffered serious health problems after the forceps delivery of her first child, weighing 11lb 2oz, lost her £64,000 damages award. The Court of Appeal ruled that a consultant at Maidstone hospital had not been negligent in his treatment of Samantha Knight, 34, of Appledore, Kent.

Call me Kennedy

The violinist Nigel Kennedy is to drop the name "Nigel" for all future concerts, recordings and public appearances and wants to be known simply as Kennedy. The intention is to make people take him more seriously. His record company, EMI Classics, said: "He wants to be positioned as a first-class violinist again."

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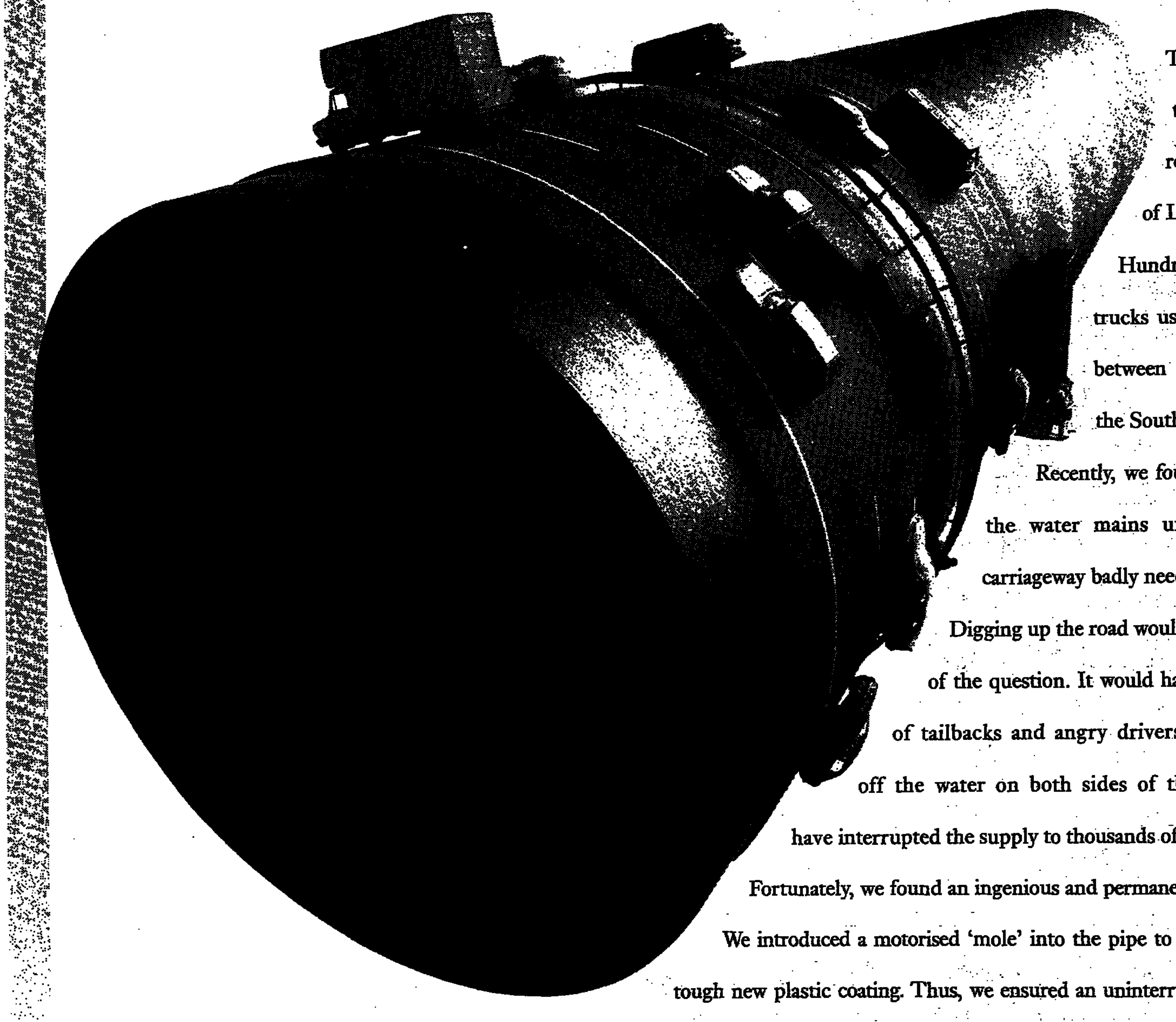

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A flow of good ideas.

Mob wanted to kill me, says crying WPC

By Adam Fresco

Accused: Paul Cooperand Deborah Gross were abusive and violent, court was told

A WPC broke down in tears in court yesterday as she described how she found herself alone among a crowd of youngsters who attacked her screaming: "kill her, kill her." Alison Mullins, who has been with the Metropolitan Police for almost 12 years, described how she was repeatedly punched and had her hair pulled by the group.

As tears streamed down the her officer's face, Judge George Bathurst Norman allowed her a few minutes to compose herself. She had to be given a glass of water and a seat by the court usher, but refused an offer from the judge for a short break to recover.

The officer told Southwark Crown Court that she was alone in a police van driving through Frith Street, Soho, central London, in the early hours of March 11 this year when she was confronted with a crowd standing in the middle of the road.

She said: "I tooted my horn to get them to move out of the way and they all started shouting abuse at me. There were approximately 20 in the group. I began to move through them and as I did I noticed a white male I now know to be Paul Cooper with a white female.

"As I passed them I checked my rear wing mirror and saw Mr Cooper kick the bumper of the van. " She got out of the van to question him and he became abusive, shouting and swearing at her.

Smelling alcohol on his breath she arrested him but as she did so others in the group tried to pull him away from her, a jury heard. She added: "I arrested him for being drunk and disorderly. I took hold of his arm and as I did so a female with him started pulling at Mr Cooper and shouting abuse at me. She was trying to pull him away. I was on my own and asked for some assistance via the radio."

During the attack Jack Gordon, a university student, tried to grab her baton, she said. "He started pulling at my elbow and arm, shouting 'Get the stick! Kill Her, Kill Her!' " she said. "All the others started shouting this and other abuse." She said that despite her ordeal, she refused to let go of Mr Cooper.

WPC Mullins added "The female was constantly grabbing at my hair and pulling and screaming abuse at me. It was all swearing, just a barrage. I was then bundled across the road and slammed into a window."

The officer said she was held in a bear hug and repeatedly punched in the chest despite her ordering the revellers to "get off me."

She was finally rescued by fellow officers. She added: "Afterwards I went and sat at the back of a police van. I felt sick and very shocked." The court heard she suffered a number of injuries and had to take time off from work.

Deborah Gross, 18, unemployed, of Guildford, Surrey; Nigel Soole, 24, a cellar supervisor, of Balham, south west London; Stephen Yarnton, 24, an order processor, of Ashford, Middlesex; Paul Cooper, 24, a software production assistant, of Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey, and Jack Gordon, 18, a student, of Ashtead, Surrey, all deny violent disorder and affray.

The trial continues.

PIERS MACDONALD

Alison Mullins: told court that she was attacked by screaming crowd

Brothers are jailed for £30m alcohol fraud

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

TWO brothers who flooded London and the Home Counties with cheap alcohol in a £30 million excise fraud were jailed for 3½ years yesterday and ordered to pay £1 million each.

Kulwant Hare, 42, and his brother, Sohan, 49, both of Loughton, Essex, each pleaded guilty at Southwark Crown Court to four charges of fraudulently evading excise duty.

Lorryloads of beer and whisky were taken from duty-free warehouses ostensibly for export, but then sold cheaply to a network of shops and off-licences. A case of 12 bottles of whisky was sold for £70 instead of at least £120.

At an earlier hearing, another brother, Avtar, 37, a struck-off barrister who became an expert on customs law, was jailed for 5½ years as the alleged mastermind of the fraud. Yesterday his brothers were ordered to pay the £1 million each or have a further five years added to their sentences. Avtar already has an order against him for the same amount.

His brothers claimed that the fraud was committed to save the family business, but Judge Jeffrey Rucker told them: "This was a fraud on a massive scale, and on the public at large. It made you large profits and you were perfectly happy to reap the benefits for the survival of the family business and to fill its coffers."

The brothers helped to run cash-and-carry warehouses which sold wine, beer and spirits at such low prices that they upset other traders, wholesalers and manufacturers. According to Kulwant Hare's barrister, he made £3 million from his part in the fraud.

Richard Sutton, QC, for the prosecution, told the court that front companies had been set up to provide a distance between the goods being bought and the eventual destination. Shipments were made to warehouses across Britain and then shipped back to the Hares' outlets in Barking and Leyton.

Multiple births rising with test-tube successes

By Ian Murray, Medical Correspondent

THE number of test-tube babies is rising rapidly, with increasing risks of multiple births, official figures showed yesterday.

There have been more than 21,000 live births in Britain using the methods pioneered in Cambridge in 1978. A quarter of the total have been born in the past two years, and more than 13 woman a day are now giving birth after fertility treatment, as an increasing number of couples take advantage of improved techniques.

The multiple birth rate from test-tube pregnancies is higher than ever, according to figures published in the annual report of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority. In the past 15 months there were [illegible]42 test-tube births, of which 1,774 were twins, triplets or quads.

The stillbirth and neonatal death rate for a triplet pregnancy, with one or more babies dying, is 82.6 per 1,000 births, compared to just eight per 1,000 for single pregnancies.

Ruth Deech, the authority chairman, said: "Multiple births can be the source of much stress and anxiety for parents. There is a greater risk of complications or even miscarriage, as well as long-term disability, and these can cause considerable emotional and financial pressure.

"People undergoing IVF treatment should be aware that as the technique becomes more successful, so the risk of multiple birth increases." A woman has a better chance of becoming pregnant if more than one embryo is transferred.

With one embryo, the pregancy rate is 8.4 per cent and the live birth rate 6.8 per cent. With three embryos, the pregnancy rate rises to 26 per cent with 21.4 per cent live births. Overall, 18.5 per cent of IVF patients become pregnant, and 15 per cent have live babies.

The authority is still making up its mind about the question of expenses for egg and sperm donors, after controversy about payments for surrogate mothers. Patient groups, clinics and other interested parties are being consulted to decide the most appropriate method of repaying costs.

University hit by meningitis considers inoculation for all

By Peter Foster

A memorial service was held yesterday for the first student to die from meningitis at Southampton University. Mellissa Irvine, 19, who had been studying music and mathematics, had been at the university less than three weeks when she was struck by the disease. Her parents, Gordon and Gill, from Ruislip, West London, attended the service at St Mary's, South Stoneham, Southampton; a student band, the Jazzmanics, which Mellissa had joined, also performed.

SOUTHAMPTON University may introduce routine meningitis vaccinations for all first-year students, after two outbreaks of the disease on British campuses in the past year, it emerged yesterday.

Three Southampton students have died in the past month. Howard Newby, the Vice-Chancellor, said: "We are actively considering what steps to take to reassure parents and students and protect them against this disease. We shall seek expert medical advice and, if that means vaccinating all students, then that is what we will do."

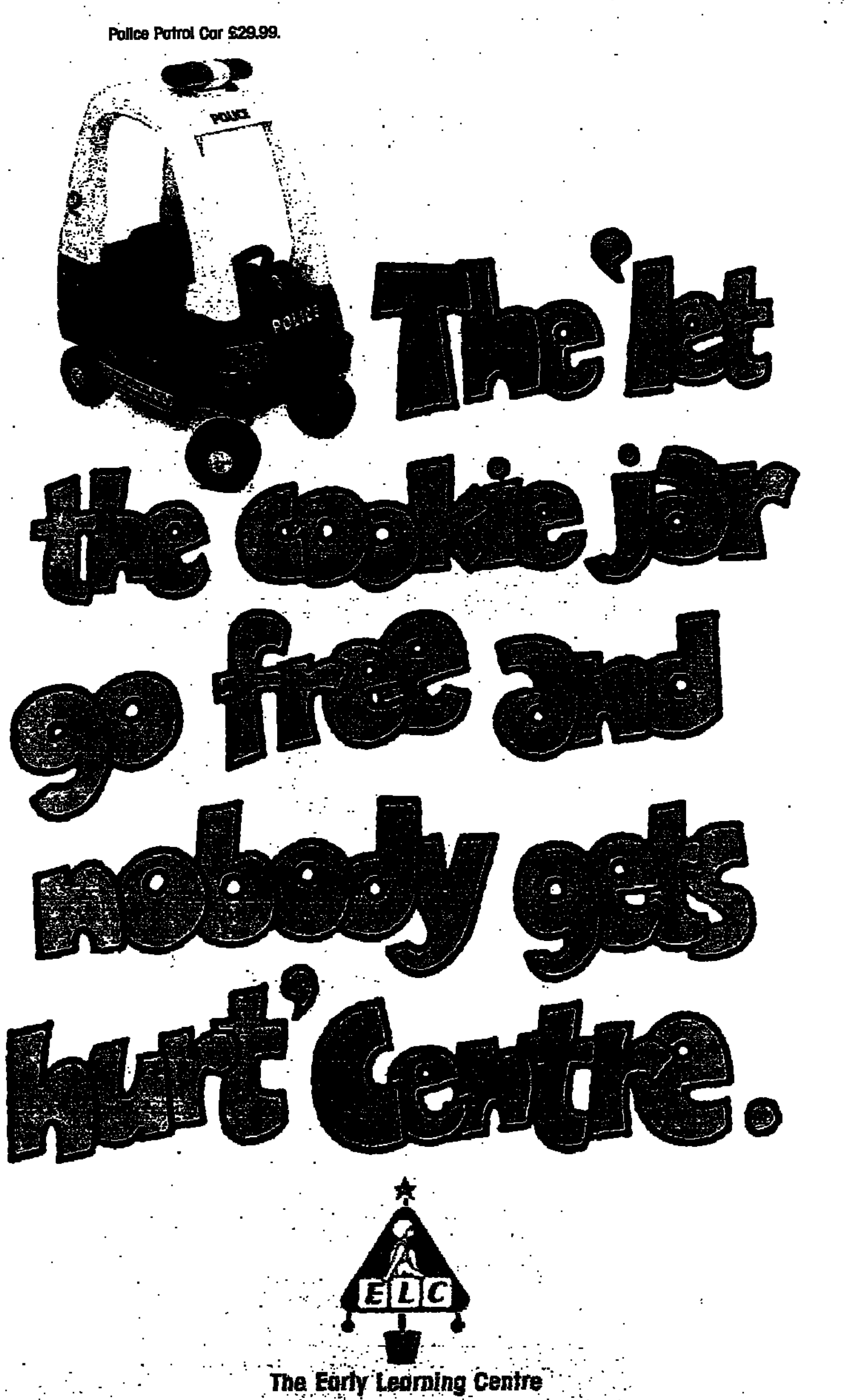
Last year two students died in Cardiff after an outbreak of the same type-C meningitis. Yesterday the National Union of Students called for a broad medical debate. "This is not something vice-chancellors can make an instant decision on. We must find out if inoculation is the most effective way of fighting the disease," a spokesman said.

The Meningitis Research Foundation says the disease is increasing in universities. Cases in the 15-24 age group have more than doubled since 1994. First-year students in halls of residence are almost twice as vulnerable as others in the same age group.

The prospect of vaccinating all Southampton students on arrival next year comes after the university was accused by some students of reacting too slowly to the crisis. On Monday it introduced a mass vaccination programme expected to cover 18,000 people. That follows the third death, which came last Sunday, despite the immunisation of 1,200 students last week.

The effectiveness of routine mass vaccination was questioned yesterday by scientists who monitor meningitis. Norman Begg, chairman of the Meningeococcus Working Group, which reports to the Government, said the risk of catching meningitis remained extremely small and the current policy was adequate.

He said: "While there is evidence that first-year undergraduates have a slightly increased risk this does not mean that routine vaccinations would necessarily save lives. The vaccine does not offer full protection and takes 10 to 14 days to produce immunity. If all students were vaccinated on arrival this might well not prevent cases."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MP vows to fight on for hunt ban

By Jill Sherman

THE *Labour* backbencher Michael Foster vowed yesterday to press on with his *attempt to ban foxhunting* despite the Government's announcement that it will *not allow time for his* Private Member's Bill.

Mr Foster, the MP for *Worcester*, who published his draft Wild Mammals (Hunting with *Dogs*) *Bill* yesterday, is determined to ensure a big majority at its second *reading on November* 28. He and other MPs who support a hunting *ban argue that* a convincing majority could still persuade business managers to allow the Bill to have its third reading and go to the Lords.

"It will have been decided on a free vote and it will carry a certain moral mandate," Mr Foster said.

The Bill provides for *maximum penalties of* £5,000 fines and up to six months' imprisonment for *huntsmen who flout* the law, or those who allow hunting on their land.

There *is growing* pressure on the Government to include an anti-hunting Bill in the next Queen's Speech. Some Labour MPs fear a public backlash against the Government's refusal to support Mr Foster.

Hamilton finds unlikely ally in Martin Bell

The former Tatton MP has turned to his old enemy for help, writes **Andrew Pierce**

THE beleaguered former minister Neil Hamilton has recruited an unlikely champion in his fight to clear his name. *Martin* Bell, the anti-sleaze campaigner who beat him in the general election battle for Tatton, has agreed to take up his case.

Mr Hamilton, whose threats of legal action threatened to overwhelm Mr Bell's *election campaign*, had a private meeting with his successor in the House of Commons on Monday. The unexpected meeting came on the eve of the Standards and Privileges Committee meeting to consider the verdict of Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner, that there was "compelling evidence" that *Mr Hamilton took cash in* brown envelopes from Mohamed Al Fayed, the own*er of Harrods.*

Mr Hamilton has had little contact with Mr Bell since *their famous encounter* on Knutsford Heath in the election campaign, when his redoubtable wife, Christine, berated the former BBC foreign correspondent for hounding an innocent man. But it was all smiles at Monday's meeting in the Commons at the office of the new MP for Tatton which, until May 1, *was the domain of Mr Hamilton.* "He came to see me in his capacity as a constituent," Mr Bell said yesterday.

Mr Bell, who stood in the election wearing his trademark white *suit, said*: "I am morally bound, if Neil Hamilton has concerns, to try to do *everything I can to help him.* It is not as if I represent all my constituents with the exception *of the former MP.*

"We talked for 45 minutes. It was prefectly convivial with not a harsh word expressed. I made clear no view on the rights or wrongs of the committee's investigation."

Mr Hamilton sought Mr Bell's help in seeking to persuade the committee to cross-examine Mr Al Fayed and his employees *over their* allegations that they paid the former trade minister up to £25,000 *during the 1980s.*

Mr Bell wrote to the committee expressing the point and his letter was delivered only minutes before the final deliberations began. Mr Bell said: "As his MP I will continue to represent his best interests. We had a polite meeting. He asked for my help and I will give it to him."

Mrs Hamilton, a constant feature by her husband's side, was conspicuous by her absence from the Commons meeting. Mr Bell had a kind word for her too. "*I have put in* an order for her book, about battleaxes of our time, and will *hope to get a signed copy*," he said.

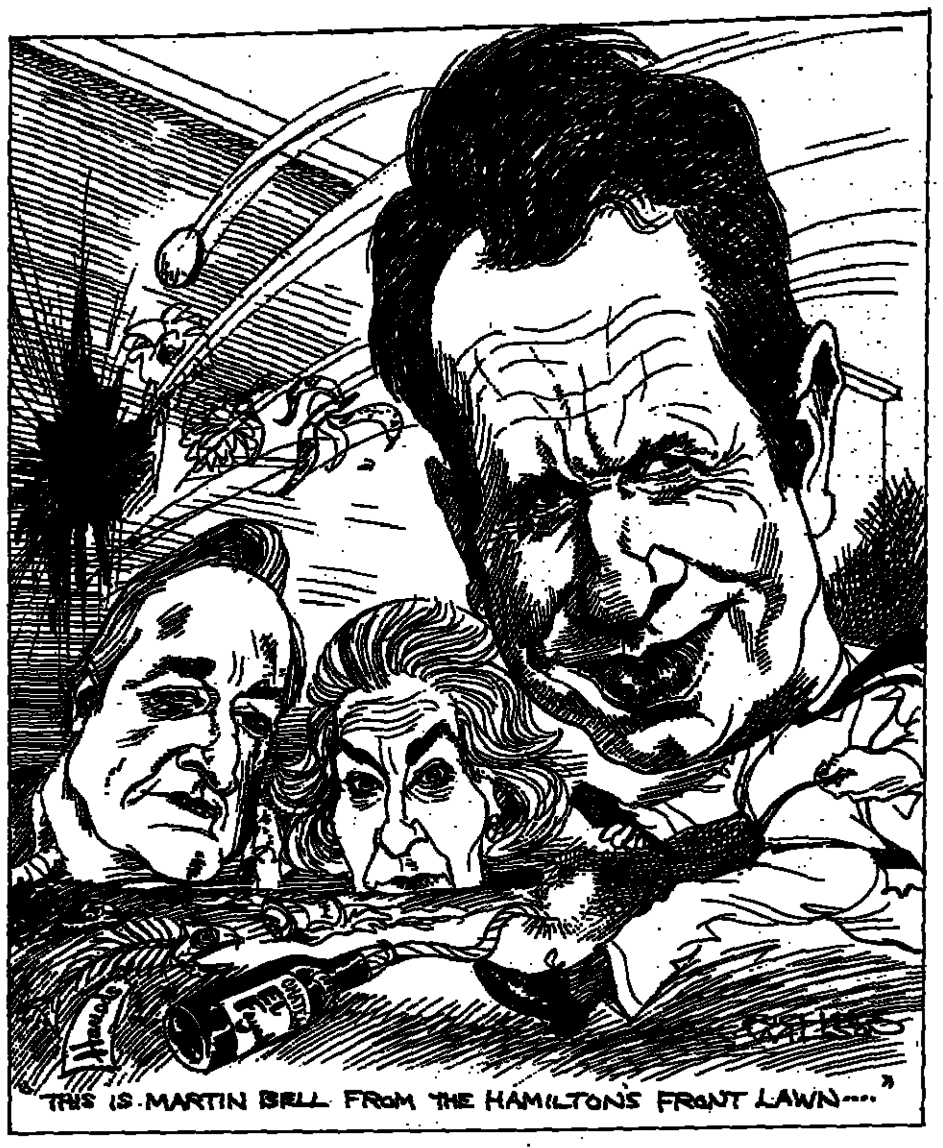
After six hours the commit*tee had failed to reach* the required unanimous verdict on Sir Gordon's investigation, which was the firswt big test of the self-regulation of Parliament. When its deliberations on Mr Hamilton are completed Mr Bell is expected to become a member.

Two Tory members, Quentin Davies (Grantham and Stamford) and *Ann* Widdecombe (Maidstone and the Weald) refused to back last *week's committee decision not* to call Mr Al Fayed, the chief accuser, for cross-examina*tion. They nmaintained* the same position yesterday in defiance of the rest of the committee.

Mr Hamilton appealed to *the committee not to* be swayed by the implicit threat that a less than unanimous *endorsement of Sir Gordon's* report would make his position untenable. The traditional cross-party co-operation on select committees appeared to be breaking down last night. One Labour MP said: "If we had our way we would have *found* Hamilton guilty in ten minutes."

Mr Hamilton urged the committee not to "shelter" Sir Gordon. "To do nothing will merely confirm the contempt in which Parliament is widely held," the former MP said.

Mr Davies and Miss Widdecombe are independent-minded Tories. Mr Davies's forensic cross-examination of David Willetts, the former Paymaster General, spelt the end of his ministerial career in the last Parliament during a related cash for *questions* investigation. Miss Widdecombe famously demolished the *former* Home Secretary Michael Howard's leadership ambitions.


THIS IS MARTIN BELL FROM THE HAMILTONS FRONT LAWN...."

Labour rebels facing long bans

By Jill Sherman
Chief Political Correspondent

FOUR rebel Labour Euro-MPs who refused to be gagged *by the party face suspensions* of up to a year after an appeal hearing in Brussels yesterday.

The panel *recommended* that Hugh Kerr and Ken Coates should be thrown out of the *European Parliamentary* Labour Party and lose their privileges for twelve months. The other two, *Alex Falconer* and Michael Hindley, will be suspended for six months if all 62 *Labour MEPs uphold the* recommendations later this month.

The so-called Strasbourg Four were suspended last month after refusing to sign Labour's Code of Practice, which prohibited them from talking to the press about proposed changes in the electoral system for the 1999 elections to the European Parliament.

Yesterday's special hearing by a *five-strong panel of* Labour MEPs, was set up to give the rebels the opportunity to *defend themselves. But Mr* Kerr and Mr Coates refused to attend, describing the meeting as "*a trial after the sentence*".

All 61 British Labour MEPs were sent the code, but the *four rebels refused* to sign, claiming that that the proposed new party list system *would remove* old Labour MEPs in favour of Blairite candidates.

Ministers facing first test of scrutiny pledge

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

THE Government now faces the first real test of its often repeated commitment to strengthen the role of Parliament in scrutinising decisions. Gordon Brown's proposals to make the Bank of England responsible for setting interest rates tend to be viewed as largely a financial matter, of interest mainly to the City. But they are of as much constitutional importance as other *higher profile measures, such* as devolution, since they involve a fundamental shift in *the way that key economic* decisions are taken.

The Bill, due to receive its *Commons second reading* next Tuesday, is very executive-minded. The Chancellor *will nominate the members of* the new monetary policy committee and will decide the inflation target. The committee will be accountable to him for this remit. Any changes in policy and interest rates will be reported to the Chancellor *and publicly announced* at a televised news conference. The Governor will also have to *answer to the Chancellor for* any significant deviation from the inflation target. These proposals are desirable and should ensure much greater openness in decision-making, notably via the publication of the minutes of the committee. But none of these changes directly involves Parliament.

Treasury *ministers* have *made a lot of enhancing* parliamentary scrutiny by regular reports to, and questioning by, the Treasury Committee. The Bank's annual report will, *for instance*, be laid before Parliament. But the proposals make little difference *to Parliament's role.* The Treasury Committee already questions the Governor *and other senior* Bank officials at least twice a year, as frequently as is now proposed.

Of course, accountability is an elusive concept. While greater openness is welcome, the reformed Bank will be only truly accountable to the Chancellor since he appoints the monetary policy committee and fixes its objectives. But there is an opportunity for a much stronger definition that directly involves Parliament.

That is recognised by the Treasury Committee in its new report on *Accountability of the Bank of England*. The MPs have made sensible suggestions about how both the *setting of the target and its* implementation should be regularly scrutinised to ensure greater clarity in such *important* decisions. But the most important proposal is that the Treasury Committee should have a statutory say in confirming nominations to the post of Governor, deputy Governor and members of the *monetary policy committee* and be able to "report to the House of Commons stating its reasons for considering that *the candidate does not meet* the criteria of competence and personal independence and recommending *that the* appointment be not confirmed".

This would be an important *check on the traditional* prerogative powers of the executive to make appointments *without involving* Parliament. However, Ann Taylor, Leader of the Commons, has already talked about ratification of major appointments by select committees.

Some commentators have suggested this is going too far, and risks politicising appointments. But the right of nomination would still lie with the Chancellor, *while* the confirmation process could be tightly defined. Conferring such a right on the Commons — along with approval of the inflation target — is crucial to ensuring that the reformed Bank is accountable to Parliament. There is a danger that *the Treasury will try to fob off* MPs with the alternative idea that they should have the right *to question new members of* the monetary policy committee *after* they have been ap*pointed. But that is an empty* gesture. Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary, should remove any doubts, and accept the Treasury Committee's proposals on confirmation as an amendment to the Bill, when he gives evidence to the MPs *this afternoon.*

PETER RIDDELL

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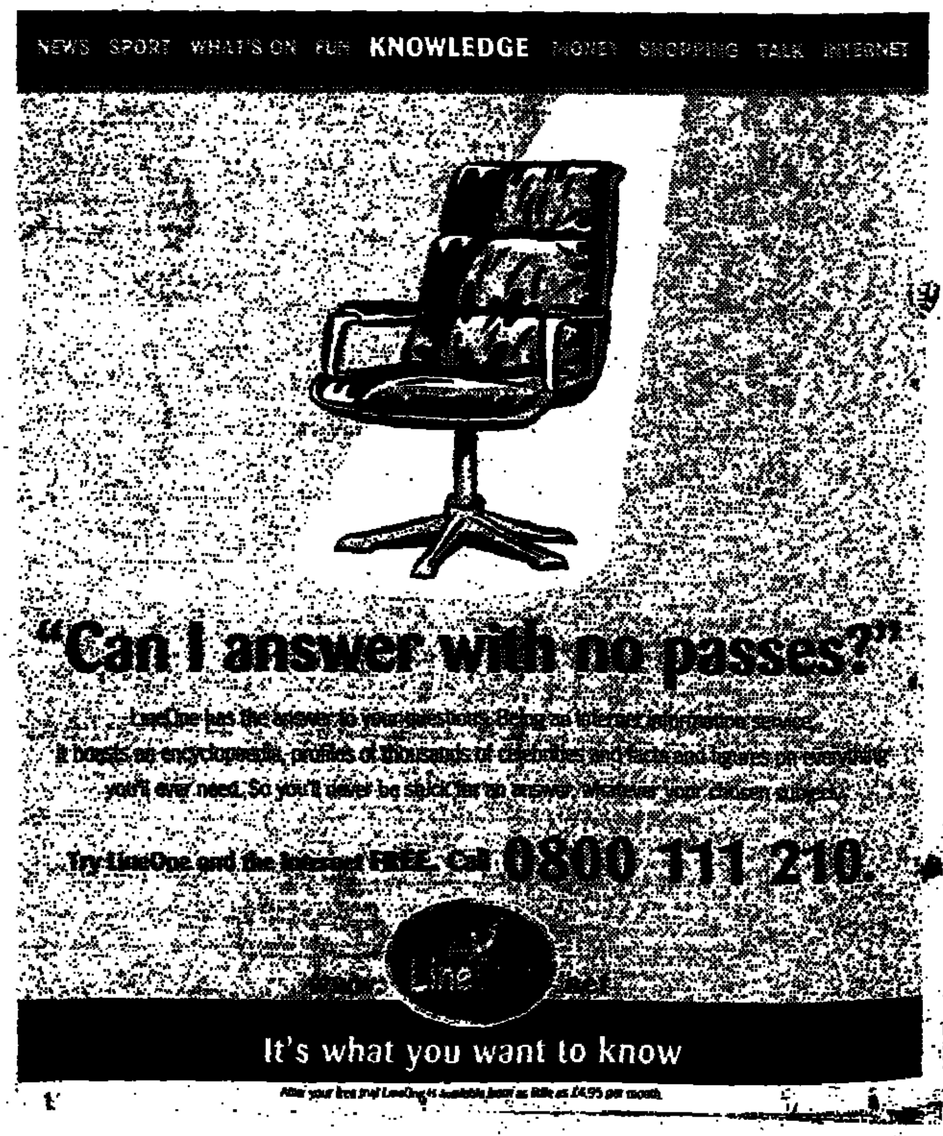
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Parents win right to school of first choice

John O'Leary reports on a ruling that could open the floodgates

The seven pupils returning to Old Hall School in Kimberworth yesterday after Mr Justice Collins ruled that the council's admissions policy had been unlawful

A GROUP of children whose parents waged a *year-long* legal battle to secure places at a local comprehensive celebrated victory yesterday in a case which may open the way *for thousands of others* to demand their first choice of school.

The seven children, aged 11 and 12, attended lessons at Old Hall School in Kimberworth, Rotherham, yesterday after almost two months of home tuition. Their local authority had refused them a place even after the High Court ruled that its action was unlawful.

Rotherham council insisted that the school was full and *that the seven pupils lived* outside its catchment area. Their parents refused to accept *defeat and clubbed together to* seek legal advice.

The parents bought all the children school uniforms and textbooks and paid £120 a week for private tuition in mathematics, English and French. They took them to Old Hall in uniform every day to sign an attendance register before being turned away from the school.

When leave was granted to challenge the council's decision in the High Court last month, Mr Justice Collins backed the parents and ruled that the admissions policy was unlawful. He said that the catchment area *policy* negated the right of parents to choose where to send their children, because the school was already full before they were allowed to express their preference.

The authority relented only after the threat of an action for contempt of court. A council spokesman *said:* "After further discussion with the head teacher, the education director has concluded that the admission of the seven children would not at this time be further prejudicial to the provision of efficient education at Old Hall."

Bill Bainbridge, the head teacher, said: "I'm pleased the matter has been resolved. The rest of our children and parents can rest assured we will be working hard to make sure *they are not disadvantaged* in any way."

Mr Bainbridge said that the new entrants would put pressure on existing classes, which already had 30 pupils, leaving little capacity for any families moving into the catchment area. But he added: "The rest children have not been in school for 7½ weeks and have a lot of work to catch up."

The parents have always argued that Old Hall was the nearest and best school to their homes *in the West Hill* area of Kimberworth. Dave Manderson, whose daughter Kerry was among the children affected, said: "We live only 120 *metres from the catchment* boundary and other kids are bussed in from miles away. The admissions policy just doesn't make sense." Before going *through* the school gates, 11-year-old Kerry said: "I'm really looking forward to meeting all my friends who I was with for seven years at primary school.

"We've had lessons at home, so I'm not too worried about being behind the others. I can't wait to go in."

Testing toddlers, page 21

Council rejects official plan to save education

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

AN EDUCATION authority that ministers have labelled the worst in Britain yesterday set itself on a collision course *with the Government by* rejecting emergency improvement plans.

The chief officers of Hackney Council, East London, dismissed the advice of a government-appointed "improvement team" as "fifth-rate management opportunism".

Their stance angered Stephen Byers, the School Standards Minister, but his office yesterday admitted that it was powerless to force the council to comply ahead of planned legislation next July.

Hackney, described by inspectors in September as out of control, has seven failing schools and has been unable to recruit an education officer for more than a year. The improvement team, *invited in* under pressure from the Government, wants the post upgraded and four more senior education posts created by November 13, so they can be filled by Christmas.

Tony Elliston, Hackney's chief executive, advised councillors to throw out the plan at their education committee meeting tonight and give his *own new management* structure time to work. He said further changes would cost at least £200,000.

"We had a system that failed which is why we have put the new structure in place," Mr Elliston said. "The improvement team's proposals will do *absolutely nothing to benefit* Hackney's children."

Mr Byers urged the councillors to defy Mr Elliston. "The time has come for the children of Hackney to be put first," Mr Byers said.

"The improvement team report concerns a lack of leadership. It is now for local councillors in Hackney to get behind the need for proper leadership in the borough's education service."

*The Department for Educa*tion and Employment said there was no prospect of emergency legislation. The Education White Paper, expected to become law in July, would give the Government powers of intervention into local education authorities.

The four-strong improvement team was led by Richard Painter, the chairman of ADT, who led the "hit squad" that closed Britain's worst school, Hackney *Downs, last* year. Mr Painter has angered Hackney councillors by refusing to attend their meeting tonight.

The final decision is likely to be taken by the full council on November 13, when the 24 Official Labour members are likely to support the proposals. However, they are expected to face opposition from the 12 Conservatives, ten Liberal Democrats and 13 members of Hackney New Labour, a breakaway *faction expelled* from the national party.

Byers: cannot force council to comply yet

Drug-taking 'part of modern life'

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

DRUG-TAKING is no longer the hallmark of rebels, losers and couch potatoes but part of the consumer lifestyle enjoyed by young people, *according to* a report published today.

Most people aged 16-24 using drugs recreationally are *sociable and* sensible rather than deviant, the report says. It condemns conventional images of drug users and says *they* are highly knowledgeable about the substances they take and the role they play in their lives.

Drug-takers are no less moral than young people *in* general, the report, *The Substance of Youth*, published by the Joseph Rowntree Trust, says. "*Most* recreational drug-taking takes place as part of a consumer lifestyle, not a deviant one."

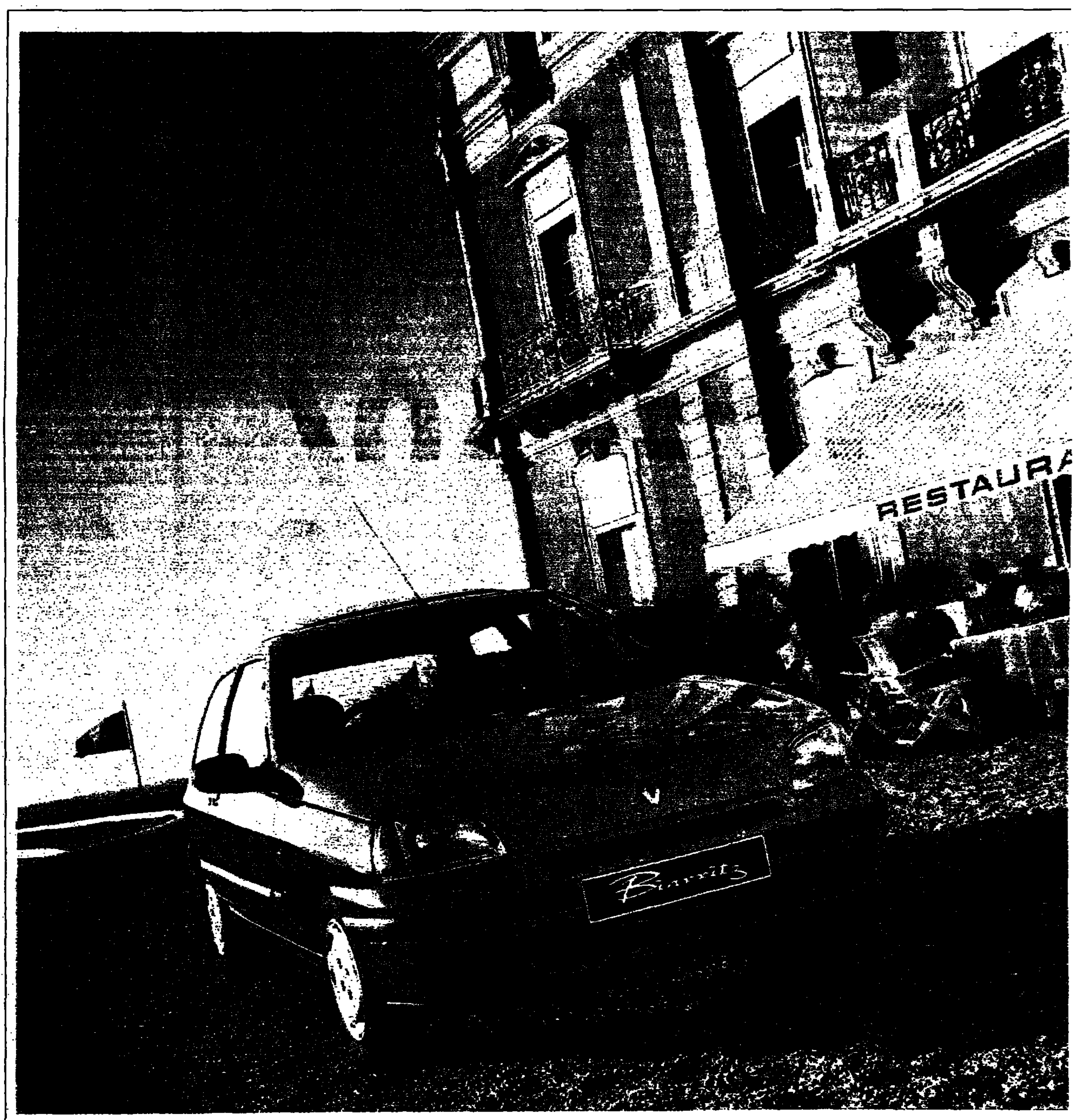
The report says there is no overall drug culture in the UK *and highlights* differences across the country. In Wythenshawe, Manchester, taking drugs is a sign of conformity rather than rebellion while in fashionable circles of London and other major cities, drug-taking may be about innovation in style.

The study by the *independent* think-tank Demos warns the Government that it will make no progress in tackling drugs effectively until the conventional image of drug-takers is dispelled and says any "battle" against drugs will fail.

One of the authors of the report warned the Government of the danger of allowing Keith Hellawell, its new Anti-Drugs Co-ordinator, to be portrayed as *someone* at war with youth culture. Mr Hellawell welcomed the report as providing a further insight into the complexities of drug misuse amongst young people.

CORRECTION

Mr Q. S. Anisuddin (letter, yesterday) is a former vice-chairman *of* the UK Immigrants Advisory Service, not the UK Immigration Service.



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M&S to open 25 stores in high-street expansion

By Fraser Nelson

MARKS & SPENCER is to open 25 small-scale food stores *in city centres as part of an* aggressive expansion plan *which will create up to 5,000* jobs and bring it into direct *competition with* Tesco's high-street Metro stores.

The company, which for the past ten years has seen its growth led by out-of-town superstores, will almost double the number of small-scale shops within the next three years in the £2.1 billion expansion programme.

Like Tesco, it has 35 food stores *which open late to catch* people doing top-up shopping *on the way home. The stores* are normally about 12,000 *sq ft, are* 95 per cent dedicated to food, and located in city centres rather than residential areas.

The competition will be most direct in Covent Garden, Central London, where Tesco opened its first Metro store eight years ago. M&S intends to move in next year, targeting the same market.

A Tesco *spokeswoman said* the company had been unaware *of M&S's expansion* plans, in which local stores *will become* the fastest-growing part of its business. M&S insisted that it was not changing its formula, and would open new out-of-town stores with the same enthusiasm.

In total, it is likely to add a further 60 stores to its 286 current outlets. Sir Richard Greenbury, the chairman, said it expected to create between 4,500 and 5,000 jobs over three years. After extensions to existing stores, its overall trading space will rise *by 25 per cent.*

The showpiece of the expan*sion will be a 200,000 sq ft* store in Manchester, which will be its largest shop in the world, replacing two temporary sites it has used since its main store in the city was closed by an IRA bomb.

The company started life as a market clothing stall in Leeds when Michael Marks, a Russian refugee, set up business with Tom Spencer, a local cashier, in 1894.

M&S results, page 27

‘Food deserts’ threaten health of poor and old

Minister is to tackle shortage of fresh produce for those stuck in inner cities and villages, writes **Valerie Elliott**

POCKETS of inner-city and rural Britain have become "food deserts" threatening the health of the poor and elderly, *says the* Government. Now ministers are looking at ways to improve nutrition levels.

More and more households are without easy access to shops selling fresh food. In the cities, "food deserts" are found in areas where a fall in population has pitched local shops into decline and a doomed struggle against supermarkets. *Only* corner shops remain, selling a limited *and overpriced range of pack*aged foods.

In the country, the closure of hundreds of village shops and poor public transport has left people without cars facing enormous difficulties. The problem is worst for the elderly, the housebound and the poor.

Ministers alarmed by the scale of the problem are examining a range of policy *options to limit the damage to* health, including a review of *planning rules to attract* retailers to deprived urban areas, outlying housing estates and remote areas.

Other ideas include helping communities to establish food co-operatives; encouraging supermarkets over home delivery services; forging partnerships between the Government and retailers; and examining the prospects for *tele-shopping on the Internet* at community centres.

Tessa Jowell, Minister for Public Health, said: "Food deserts are a real problem and they give rise to other conditions. If you can't get the right food, people eat fast food and convenience food and often they may be chronically deficient in essential nutrients."

Ms Jowell said the issues would be addressed in the consultative Green Paper *Our Healthier Nation*, to be pub*lished before Christmas.*

Department of Health offici*als are also to start mapping* the food deserts throughout the country. While most *are* expected to be inner-city pockets, some market towns and outlying rural villages and hamlets will also be included.

Food deserts are likely to be one of the first issues to be examined by the social exclusion unit in the Cabinet office. The differences between food *distribution across the country* is also expected to be examined by the proposed new Food Standards Agency.

Miss Jowell is to meet big retailers shortly to discuss the problems and to look at the possibility of new partnerships with them. She is impressed by schemes such as the one run by Tesco, which has an arrangement with councils in Ealing, West *London, and Leeds to deliver* food to the elderly, infirm and *housebound. It also runs* 100 free buses to their supermar*kets at a cost of* £3 *million* a year.

Miss Jowell wants health authorities and local councils to consider nutrition when they draw up health action plans. She also suggests there could be a role for the proposed new healthy-living centres in helping certain groups of the population to have access to good food.

Miss Jowell accepted the need to strike a balance between local shops and super*markets:* "On the one *hand* you don't want to drive corner *shops out of business, but it is* vitally important for people to *have access to fresh food. We* are enormously concerned about the effect on public health.

"There is no point people knowing how to eat in a healthy way if they physically cannot get to a shop with the fresh food. Virtually every major illness is related to social class and we really need to ensure that good eating habits are established in childhood. We know that coronary heart disease, or predisposition to it, for example, needs to be addressed in childhood."

RURAL DELIVERIES AND DIET TIPS

FRESH food can be scarce in the remote countryside. In Devon the Soil Association has set up food deliveries for the poor, elderly and housebound where village shops have closed and transport is poor.

People can order fresh *fruit and vegetables from* ten organic farms for deliv*ery directly to the door or* to a collection point. Some farms will include fresh meat.

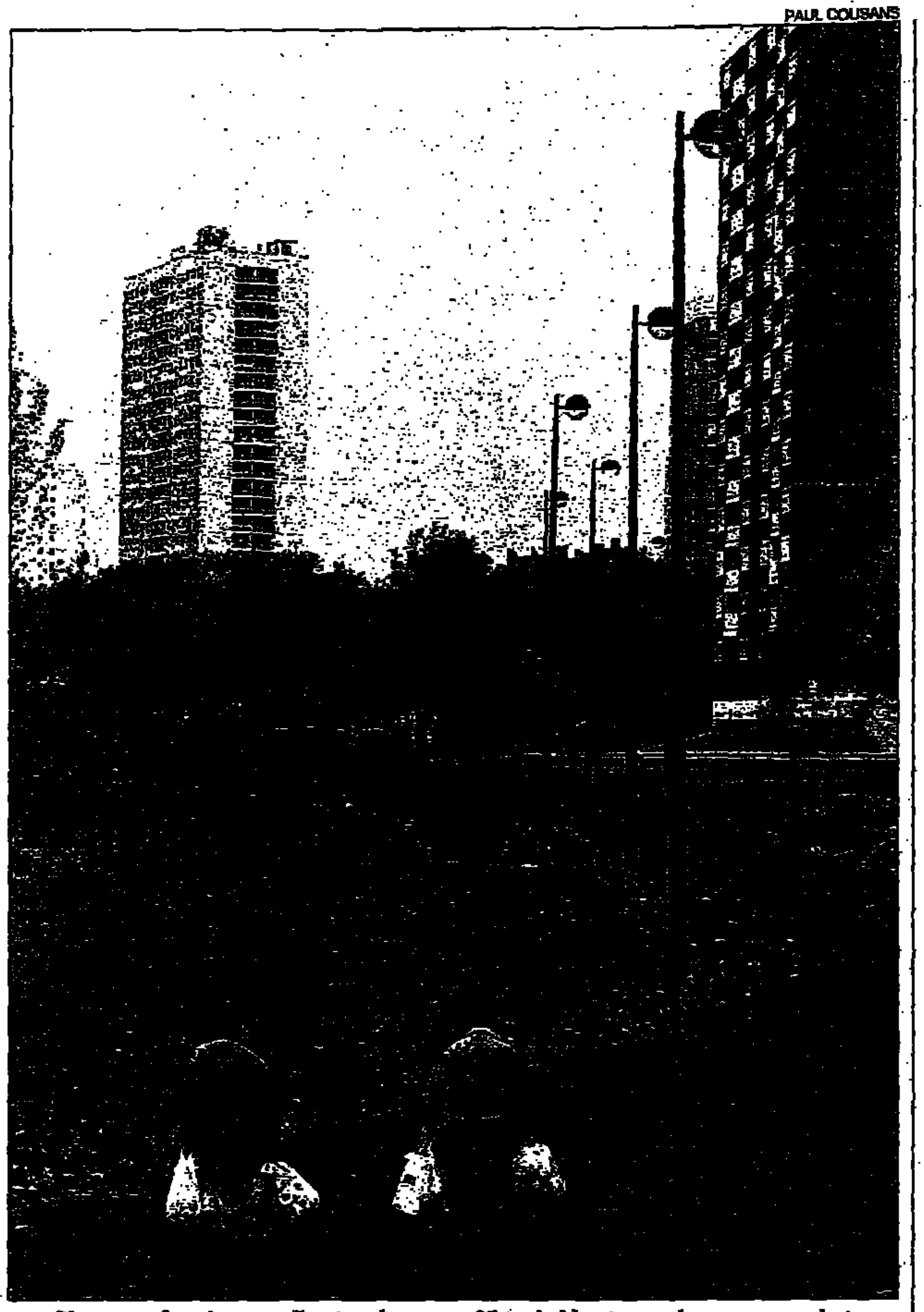
The projects help people in villages and farms near Barnstaple and Bideford, around Princetown on Dartmoor, and near Totnes and Kingsbridge in south Devon. There are the usual health problems connected with failure to eat a nutritious diet. Isolation also brings high levels of suicide.

In the fenlands south of Downham Market and Swaffham in Norfolk, the health authority is setting up centres for producers to sell their goods, and en*couraging people to grow* vegetables.

***Many villages have lost* their shops, and it is diffi*cult to* keep food fresh between weekly shopping trips to town.**

Families were asked to keep food diaries. Many relied largely on convenience foods.

Many young mothers did not know how to cook fresh ingredients. A college in Norwich ran cookery courses and produced a book of economical, nutritious recipes.



PAUL COUSANS

Shoppers face long walks, two buses or £5 taxi rides to reach a supermarket

Where fresh fruit and veg are a two-mile walk away

WEST EVERTON, one in*ner-city area identified as a* food desert, has seen massive *depopulation* in recent years. Sixty-five per cent of inhabitants have moved away since 1993 and new shops are not viable; one supermarket that did set up is now a bingo hall.

For a population of 6,000 there is one general store, but people have to travel, and usually walk, nearly two miles to a supermarket. Some 93 per cent of the people in West Everton, Liverpool, live in rented accommodation, 67 per cent of households have no adult in work and 86 per *cent of residents do not have* access to a car — one of the *lowest levels of car ownership* in Europe.

There are bus services, but most do not link directly to the supermarkets and people often have to change twice to reach a large store offering a full range of fresh produce. Two of the nearest stores concentrate on freezer products and tinned food.

The area is blighted by ill-health. Some 40 per cent of residents have a long-term illness, and one in five children is affected by wheezing. *Everton also has a standard* mortality rate higher than any other *part* of Liverpool. The level is assessed at 170, where a standard index would be 100. Most deaths are caused by stroke, cancer or heart disease.

Save the Children Fund has set up a programme in the area to help children. Clare Mahoney, the project's co-ordinator, said: "There is chronic illness in this area and people find it very difficult to get hold of fresh fruit and vegetables."

Pensioner jailed over birds that flocked to her garden

A PENSIONER has been jailed for three months for feeding birds and animals in her garden.

Barbara Simpson, 60, was committed to prison for flouting council injunctions not to put out food on her 24 sq ft bird table. She was appearing at Winchester Crown Court for the fifth time this year since Weymouth and Portland Borough Council was granted *the injunction.* Mrs Simpson, of Preston, *Dorset, admitted* breaking the injunction more than 20 times.

Purvaise Punwar, for Mrs Simpson, said: "The reason she broke the order was quite simply, try as she might, she couldn't bear to see the birds she has grown to love over the years starve."

He said that Mrs Simpson had no children and very few interests in life apart from caring for birds and animals. Mr Punwar said that Mrs Simpson had previously been *spending* £150 a week on bird food. But since the final order she had been spending only £32 a week — principally for her 30 white fan-tailed doves.

The council had sought the court order after neighbours complained that thousands of rooks, pigeons and starlings would gather in nearby trees, waking them at 5am. They also claimed that the birds soiled their washing and windows and that leftover food attracted rats.

The court was told that at times the bird food in Mrs Simpson's garden and on the verge outside had been a foot *high.* Mrs Simpson had claimed that local council pho*tographs of piles of food were* faked and her neighbours had lied in evidence.

Mr Punwar said the court should seek a long-term solution to the problem and allow Mrs Simpson to undergo psychiatric treatment and perhaps fine her for the breaches.

Sentencing her, Judge Roger Titheridge said: "It is a sad duty I have to perform on a 60-year-old woman with an unblemished character. But she is quite unable to stop actions that involve contempt of court — but, more importantly, involve serious risk to the health to others."

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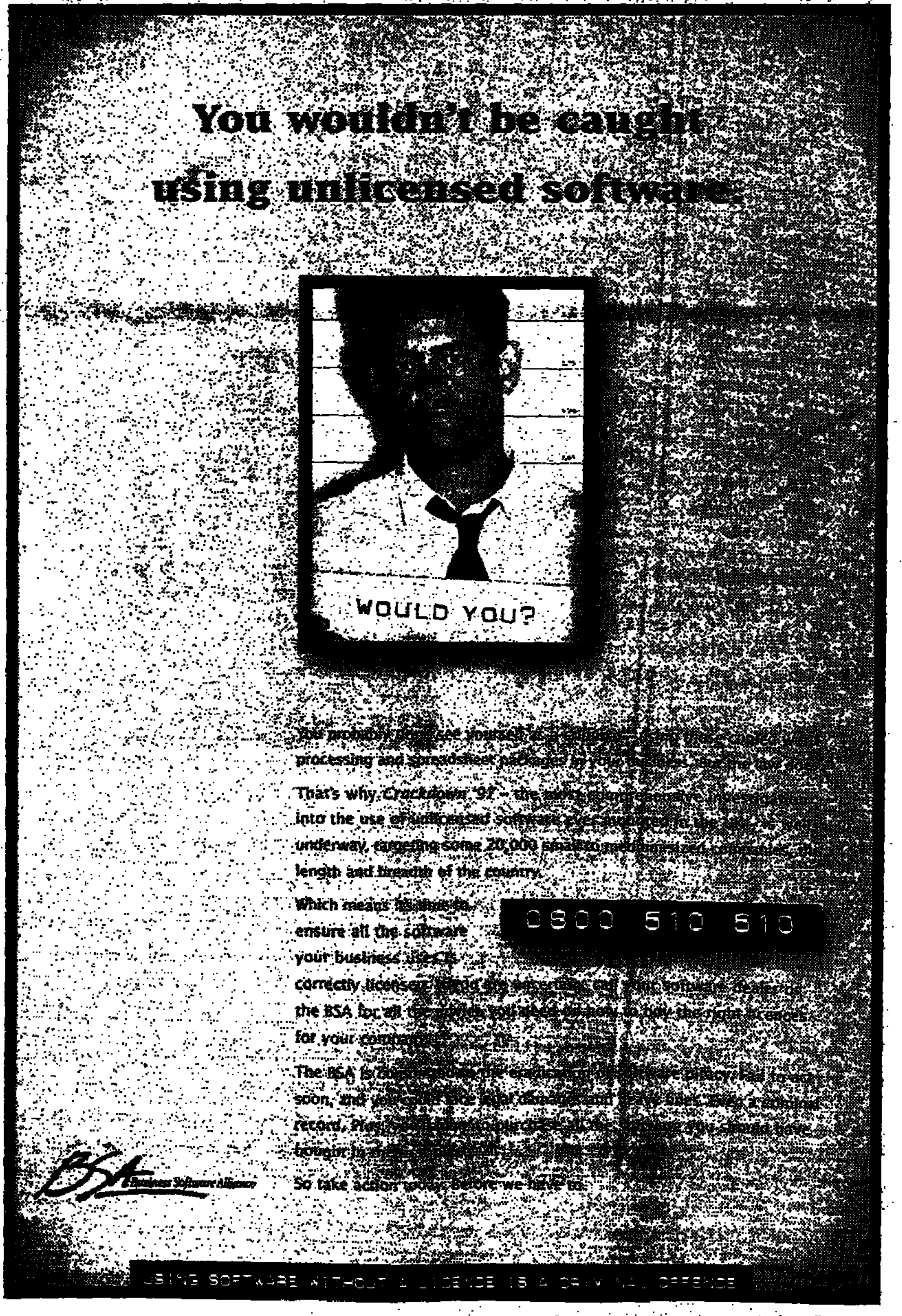

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EU to make firms consult workers on business plans

New law under social chapter would require agreement on sackings, writes Charles Bremner

THE European Commission will prepare the way today for a new law under the social chapter that would require all but the smallest firms to consult their employees on future policy and would render void any sackings without such action.

The move, which would greatly extend an existing law that covers large multinational companies, is aimed at bringing Britain and Ireland into line with continental practice which requires firms to operate works councils.

The Government has criticised the idea as an unnecessary burden on business but, under the social chapter, which Britain is joining in the Treaty of Amsterdam, any opposition could be overruled by a majority vote.

The Commission's decision comes as ministers meet in Brussels today to prepare for the European Union "jobs summit" later this month at which Britain will press for easing the burden of regulations on employers. Tony Blair has been urging EU leaders to refrain from using the social chapter to pass new laws that could inflict more red tape on business.

Britain has already signed up to laws on parental leave, the rights of part-time workers and shifting the burden of proof in sexual discrimination cases. The proposed law on consultation will test the Government's commitment to improved workers' rights against the potentially conflicting drive for more flexible labour regulation.

Under the rules of the social chapter, the Commission will give EU employers' organisations and unions six weeks to decide whether to negotiate their own version of a consultation law. Failing this, Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, will submit a draft law for the member states to enact.

In an initial discussion this summer, employers resisted the scheme and unions favoured it. Two pieces of legislation have already been enacted through agreement between the social partners, as the employers and unions are called.

British officials said yesterday that Government favoured such negotiations as the best route for drafting the proposed consultation law. However, when the idea was first mooted last June, Downing Street said: "We are not in favour of new regulation in this area."

The legislation is intended to curb "social dumping", in which "companies shop around for places that have low requirements in industrial relations", an EU official said. Britain, with its low employment costs, is deemed on the Continent to be the worst "offender".

Flynn: will submit a draft law if necessary

A commission document released today says the proposed law would provide equal treatment for all workers across the EU "to avoid discrimination and to ensure greater compatibility between national provisions".

It must enshrine "the right of workers to be informed and consulted ... on the economic situation and the future outlook of the company and on any decisions likely to affect them".

This is intended to benefit workers and companies by improving morale and helping staff to adapt to rapidly changing conditions.

Mr Flynn wants the law to have teeth in the form of penalties against firms that flout the legal obligation to consult.

Public pressure on the Commission for such action has come from highly publicised cases of factory closure, notably a decision by the vehicle manufacturer Renault to sack 2,000 workers at its plant in Brussels earlier this year.

The main proposed penalty would be to annul dismissal notices or any other decisions affecting the conditions of employment.

The Commission is not formally setting the size of company that will come under the law, but Mr Flynn has cited a minimum of 50 employees as a desirable target.

Under the existing multinational law, which is deemed by many British companies to have been beneficial, only firms employing at least 2,000 workers in two or more member states are required to set up works councils.

The Commission insists that the new scheme should allow for a less formal structure than works councils.

George Soros, page 22
Letters, page 23

SIMON WALKER

Tony Blair accepting a poppy from his wife, Cherie, yesterday. The Royal British Legion delivers a supply of poppies every year to 10 Downing Street, for use by visitors and staff, and the Prime Minister traditionally buys the first one

MPs' insults undermine all politicians, Nolan warns

By Valerie Elliott
Whitehall Editor

Nolan: spoke about the dangers of cynicism

MPs are helping to reduce confidence in politicians by constantly insulting each other, Lord Nolan, the public standards watchdog, will say tonight in a warning on the dangers of cynicism.

Delivering the Richard Dimbleby Lecture, to be televised on BBC1, he is also expected to criticise members of the public who accept and enjoy any bad thing they hear about others, and blames the press for its part in promoting the growth of cynicism.

While he accepts that the exchanges of insults by politicians is part of the democratic process, he believes that "constant and sometimes irresponsible blackguarding of each other, especially at election times" is partly to blame for declining public confidence in those in public life: "When they accuse each other of dishonesty the public can be forgiven if they take the accusations at face value. After all, the politicians should know."

He staunchly defends a free press, however, and the contribution that newspapers had made to expose wrongdoing. Newspaper editors do not share the public's low opinion of politicians, he points out.

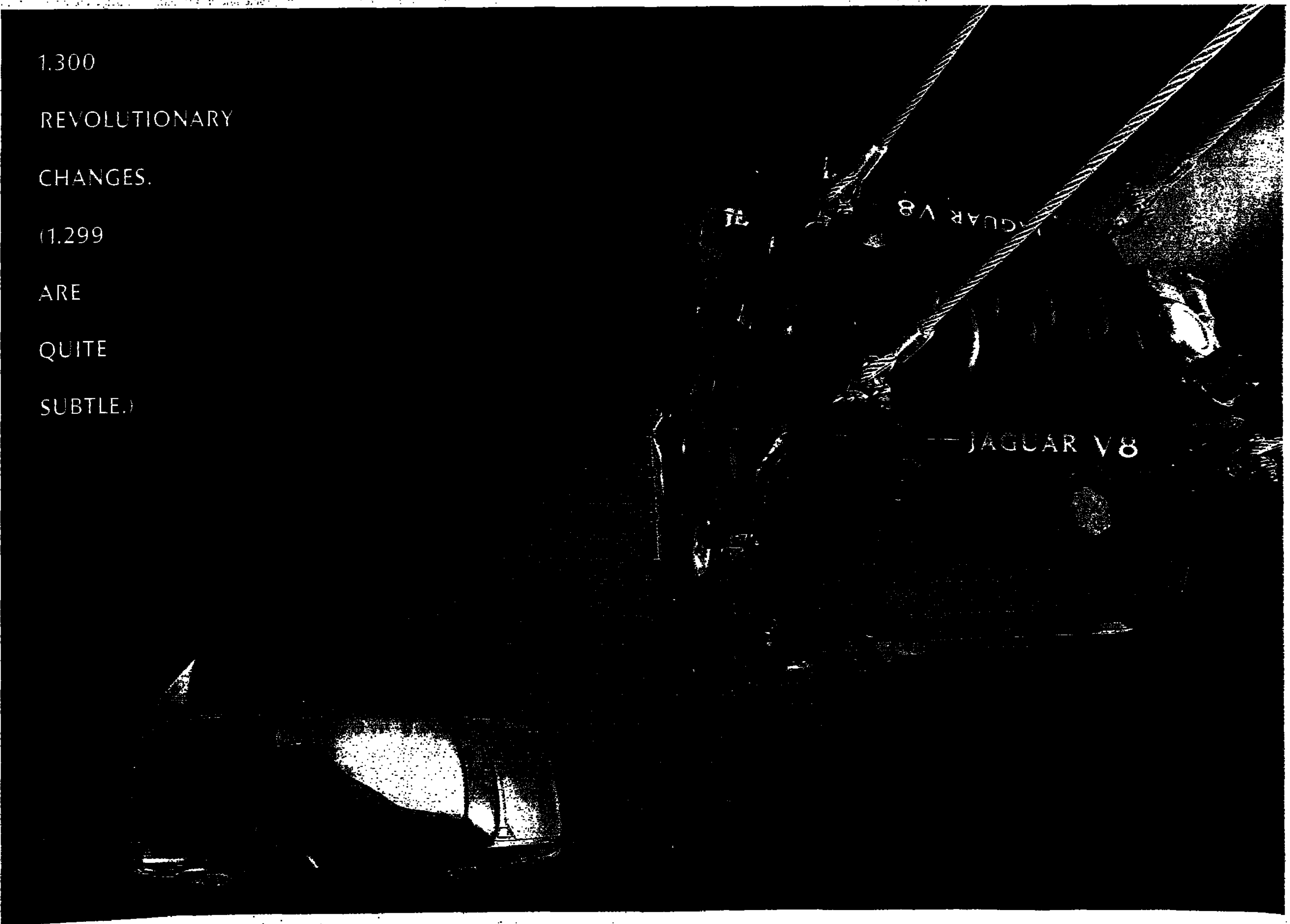
Lord Nolan, who steps down as the chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life this week, will stress that the public perception of sleaze runs far ahead of the reality, but he believes the jury is still out on Parliament's self-regulatory role and the success of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Sir Gordon Downey.

He will point out that the House of Commons itself made its own rules for the procedures of the new Commissioner, and will make clear that the issues will be reconsidered by the committee under its new chairman, Sir Patrick Neill, QC. Lord Nolan hopes that the committee will be given a role in monitoring the constitutional changes such as the Scottish parliament, the Welsh assembly, the Greater London authority and reform of the House of Lords.

He will also highlight the need for tougher procedures on whistle-blowing in public life, and emphasise that democracy works in Britain because its actions are monitored by independent institutions and individuals: "It is underpinned by the integrity and political neutrality of the Civil Service, the judges, the Armed Forces and police."

Members of all these institutions must be prepared to protest against the misuse of power, he believes. While judges were well-placed for this, because they have job security, he recognises that it takes more courage for junior officials or junior police officers to speak up against perceived improper behaviour of their superiors.

"Yet, without their willingness to do so, possibly at great expense to the wellbeing of themselves and their families, great wrongs may be perpetrated and remain undetected."



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TV cartoons 'draw children away from life'

Carol Midgley reports on alert by TV watchdogs that animation glut is failing young minds

Squeezed by the cartoon heroes: programmes such as *Play School* and *Sesame Street* helped to prepare children for school and widened their interests, says the report

CHILDREN are being starved of quality television because of a massive increase in the use of cartoons, broadcasting watchdogs said yesterday. The result is that an entire generation may be missing opportunities to develop critical abilities and wider interests.

The Broadcasting Standards Commission said that shows such as *Play School* and *Playdays* were becoming the dinosaurs of children's programming, as BBC and ITV increasingly sought the cheaper option of imported animations for a ratings war with cable and satellite channels.

On BBC1, cartoons formed 35 per cent of children's output last year, compared with 9 per cent in 1981 and 26 per cent in 1992. Pre-school programmes formed 7 per cent of the schedules last year, down from 18 per cent in 1981, and 12 per cent in 1992.

On ITV, cartoons accounted for 40 per cent of output, and its young factual programming fell to 7 per cent last year from 22 per cent in 1982. Over the same period, drama aimed at children fell from 23 per cent to 12 per cent.

When satellite and cable channels are included, cartoons make up two-thirds of all television for children. Lady Howe of Aberavon, chairwoman of the BSC, said: "The diversity of broadcasting offered to British children is declining, and we should be concerned. The tradition of public service broadcasting was to encourage the child's development as a good citizen, with critical abilities and an interest in a wide range of issues."

Lady Howe added that her two-year-old grandchild was a great fan of the BBC's *Teletubbies*, "but that should not be all there is — there is scope for much much more". Cartoons such as *The Simpsons*, *Scooby Doo*, *Tom and Jerry* and Disney's *Winnie The Pooh* had become the mainstays which squeezed factual and drama programmes, as ITV, Channel 4 and the BBC are forced to compete with dedicated satellite channels such as Nickelodeon and the Disney Channel.

Maire Messenger Davies, of the University of Wales, who compiled yesterday's BSC report, *The Provision of Children's Television in Britain*, said that the BBC had recently treated pre-school programmes in a "rather cavalier fashion" and had invested all its pre-school budget for the next two years on *Teletubbies*. She also referred to an "ominous" cut in the children's budget from £60 million last year to £55 million this year.

Many old programmes such as *The Herbs* and *Playdays* were being repeated, but fewer new ones were being made, she said. "*Teletubbies* is for two to three-year-olds, but what about four, five and six-year-olds? What is missing is the old *Sesame Street* and *Play School*-type programmes which featured an adult other than parents talking directly to them."

She said such programmes compensated children who did not have nursery education, and helped to prepare them for school. "Animation is cheap to buy and there is a lot of temptation to fill up airtime with it. Although it is good stuff, it seems a lazy way to fulfil their requirements."

The report suggests that the BBC, like ITV and Channel 4, should come under the control of the Broadcasting Act, which has a mandate to provide diversity in children's programming and protects time slots. In May 1992, first shows of *Playdays* were screened daily on BBC1. In 1996, *Playdays* repeats were on daily. "*Playdays* has now come to an end and the BBC has no pre-school magazine programme with diversity of formats — storytelling, music, craft activities, comedy, direct address from adult presenters from different ethnic and regional backgrounds."

Later, Roy Thompson, of BBC children's television, said: "The BBC is now showing more pre-school programming than before. *Teletubbies* is longer and more ambitious than its predecessors. We do not understand the comments on BBC's decline in pre-school output. The BBC is committed to providing a range of quality programmes for children of all ages. We agree with Lady Howe that children have the right to varied programming."

Vanessa Chapman, ITV controller of network children's programmes, said: "You will never see wall-to-wall cartoons on ITV. The report considers our output to be diverse and of quality."

Janie Grace, managing director of Nickelodeon, said that cartoons were cheaper to buy, but were the most costly entertainment to make, apart from film drama: "In a global world, cartoons can travel from country to country because they can be dubbed. There are more cartoons now, but they are a very good vehicle for education."

Nigella Lawson, page 21

ITN told to improve Channel 4 news or risk losing its contract

By **Raymond Snoddy**
MEDIA EDITOR

MICHAEL JACKSON, the recently appointed chief executive of Channel 4, yesterday issued a challenge to ITN to come up with fresh ideas for *Channel 4 News* or face losing the contract to other broadcasters.

Mr Jackson invited television producers to come up with new proposals for what is, in effect, a pre-tender document for the future of Channel 4's news service, which has been provided, since the launch of the channel 15 years ago, by Independent Television News.

In a thinly veiled threat, Mr Jackson said: "No supplier has a freehold on a Channel 4 programme, and that means there must be times when other providers are given an opportunity to see if they are up to taking over the lease."

ITN was seen yesterday to take his comments very seriously when it immediately removed Sarah Nathan, the editor of *Channel 4 News*, and made it clear that the decision was a direct response to Mr Jackson's challenge. It said: "With Channel 4 signalling its wish for change in *Channel 4 News*, a new editor has a better chance of achieving that."

The news organisation added that it had no criticism of the editorship of Ms Nathan, who was the first woman editor of a national television news programme. Indeed, ITN emphasised her achievements, including last year's Bafta award and exclusives such as *Bloody Sunday*, about the chaining of women prisoners. Ms Nathan will leave towards the end of the year and ITN says it will appoint a new editor in the next few weeks.

Although ITN faces potential opposition, its existing contract, which ran until the end of next year, has been extended to the middle of 1999 to give it a chance to make the sort of changes that Mr Jackson wants to see.

ITN also announced that another of its programmes, *5 News*, Channel 5's primetime programme, will move from its 8.30pm slot to 7pm in the new year. The hope is that the half-hour programme, presented by Kirsty Young, will attract a larger audience at the earlier time. The change means that *5 News* and *Channel 4 News* will be competing head-to-head at 7pm, the first time that separate news programmes produced by ITN have competed so directly.

Channel 5 also plans to produce a half-hour lunchtime news programme at noon for the first time. Vacating its 8.30pm slot would, by coincidence, make it easier for ITV to move *News at Ten* to 8.30, in advance of the BBC's *Nine O'Clock News*.

Television, page 51

Sarah Nathan: casualty of shake-up

Spend more on drugs, NHS told

By **Jan Murray**
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE NHS could cure its financial crisis by spending more on new drugs, the pharmaceuticals industry claimed yesterday. It said that increased spending on medicines would not only free hospital beds, but reduce unemployment levels, improve productivity and cut the social services budget.

"In the debate about funding the NHS, cost-efficiency is prevalent, but we must be sure that cost-effectiveness is not confused with cost-cutting," Peter Read, president of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, said. A list of past successes is to be sent to a cost-efficiency team at the Department of Health to show that drug treatment has cut the average length of stay in hospital since 1951 from 45 days to eight days, and that, over the past 40 years, medicines have made it possible to halve the number of hospital beds needed to treat 12 major illnesses.

"For every 10 per cent increase in the use of medicines, there is a 6.4 per cent drop in the amount spent on hospital care," Dr Read said. "For every pound spent on drugs there is a £3.65 saving on other NHS services."

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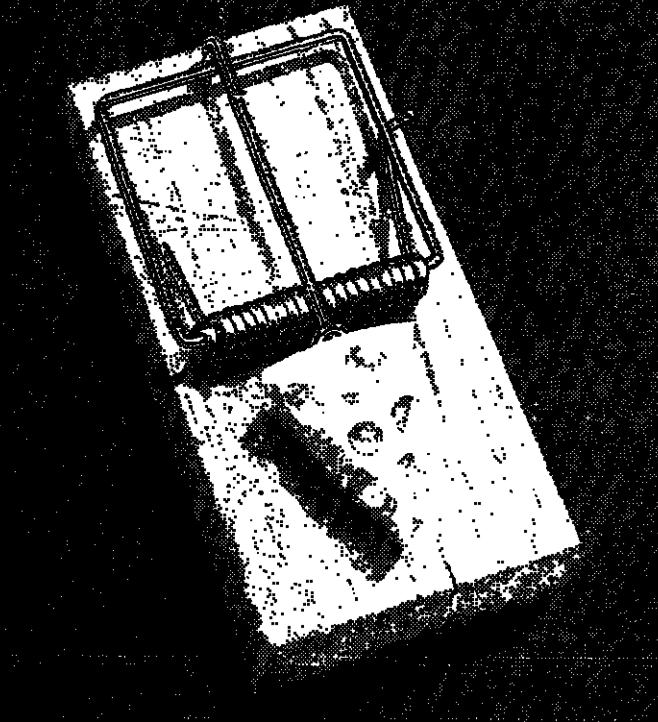

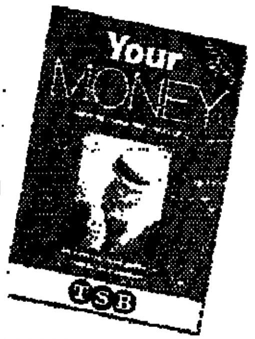

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Sleaze has little effect on voters' view of Labour

By Magnus Linklater

PAISLEY SOUTH

IT IS NOT too hard to predict the result of tomorrow's by-election in Paisley South. Barring anything unforeseen — and Labour has spent most of its time ensuring that the very word is removed from the lexicon — Douglas Alexander, a 30-year-old Edinburgh solicitor and sometime speechwriter to the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, will be elected MP for this solid Labour seat.

Despite predictions of bitterness and rancour, it has been a surprisingly bland campaign. Mr Alexander seems to have been broadly accepted by the electorate as heir apparent to Gordon McMaster, whose suicide prompted the by-election. This is despite his relative youth, the fact that he seems the antithesis of the tough, West Coast Labour archetype, and that Edinburgh solicitors are not everyone's cup of tea in Paisley. "He's a lovely young man," said one Paisley matron, "very young, mind you, but lovely." In fact 30 is not all that young. It's just that Mr Alexander looks more like 19.

That is about all anyone can say about him thus far, since he has been kept well away from the usual round of daily press conferences. His is the face that appeared occasionally alongside Mr Brown in those fly-on-the-wall television documentaries about life at the Treasury. He didn't say much then. He's not saying much now. "Where's Dougy?" has been the theme cry of the campaign as his opponents try to pick a fight. "A cut-out candidate," stormed one. "Running scared," said another. To no avail.

Labour's policy is clear: keep the temperature down, steer away from trouble and wait for Mr McMaster's 12,750 majority to be repeated on November 6. While all the other party leaders have been to Paisley, there has been no sign of Tony Blair.

The very fact of the Prime Minister's absence, as Sherlock Holmes might have said, is the curious thing about this campaign. The other curious thing is that sleaze, which everyone predicted would turn the by-election into as ferocious an affair as Tatton or Putney, has simply failed to ignite. Despite the best endeavours of Mr Alexander's opponents, the very word has seemed to lose its impact. It is as if its repetition has dulled the senses, and certainly the interest, of the voters. The SNP's Ian Blackford, by far the most impressive of the other candidates, has placed it at the top of the agenda and has pointed out that Labour's inaction in the past had allowed it to flourish. He may well make inroads in the Labour vote, but not enough to overturn a seat as safe as this.

And yet Paisley was where Labour's image seemed most tainted. After McMaster's death, lurid allegations gathered about the nature of local politics in the area. The neighbouring MP for Renfrewshire West, Tommy Graham, named in McMaster's suicide note, was said to have spread damaging rumours about him, and was suspended by the party. Mr Graham's election agent, Harry Revie, was accused of using threats and intimidation. A general sense of corruption became almost synonymous with the name of Paisley.

Mr Alexander insists that his party takes sleaze seriously. Yesterday, in a quiet masterstroke, the party announced that Mr Revie was being stripped of various offices, including his convenership of the property committee on Renfrewshire Council. If, tomorrow, the voters of Paisley do wonder whether Labour is capable of cleaning up its act, that could help them to make up their minds. But maybe they will simply go for "the lovely young man".

☐ **General election result:** G. McMaster (Lab) 21,482; W. Martin (SNP) 8,732; E. McCartin (LD) 3,500; R. Reid (C) 3,237. Lab majority 12,750.

ASHLEY COOMBES

Campaigning on the streets of the Beckenham constituency yesterday: the Conservatives' Jacqui Lait, left, and Labour's Bob Hughes

Tory running on a lukewarm formula

By Nicholas Watt
Political Correspondent

BECKENHAM

THE Tories should coast to victory in Beckenham, where comfortable London commuters have ensured victory for the party at every election since the seat was created in 1948. But two bugbears which led to the Tories' national defeat on May 1 — sleaze and Europe — have returned to haunt their by-election campaign.

Jacqui Lait, the pro-European who is standing for the Tories, has been forced to cobble together an uncertain formula to show her lukewarm support for William Hague's hard-line stance on the single currency. Yesterday she professed herself to "be at ease" with Mr Hague's decision to rule out membership for ten years.

Mrs Lait, 49, made history in 1996 by becoming the first Tory woman whip, and is a former parliamentary private secretary to Mr Hague, but lost her Hastings and Rye seat on May 1. She said: "I am a Euro enthusiast, but I have always been sceptical about the single currency."

Mrs Lait is also having to cope with local anger over the behaviour of Piers Merchant, who resigned the seat last month after an affair with a teenage nightclub hostess. Mrs Lait insisted that voters had drawn a line under Mr Merchant's behaviour, but some die-hard Tories are still smarting. John Cranstoun, 54, who owns a vegetable shop in Penge High Street, said: "I have voted Tory all my life, but I may vote Labour this time. You should not lie through your teeth. Lying is the lowest of the lowest."

Labour is relishing Mrs Lait's difficulties, which are overshadowing her campaign ahead of the by-election on November 20. Mr Merchant held the seat at the General Election, although there was a swing of 15 per cent to Labour. Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister who campaigned in the by-election yesterday, said that Labour now stands a "fighting chance" of winning. Bob Hughes, 39, the Labour candidate, said that the success of the Government would attract voters from traditionally Tory-voting wards near Bromley, and that Conservatives should not underestimate the strength of the Labour vote in Penge, which has some of the most deprived housing estates in London.

Mr Hughes, who concentrated his campaign in Penge yesterday, said: "The perception of Beckenham as leafy Tory territory is wrong."

Rosemary Vetterlein, who was third in the general election, is standing again for the Liberal Democrats.

☐ General election result: P. Merchant (C) 23,084; R. Hughes (Lab) 18,131; R. Vetterlein (LD) 9,858. Tory majority: 4,953

'Sour grapes' could still yield good Conservative vintage

James Landale

WINCHESTER

"IT'S NOT a fix-up, I swear," said Mark Oaten, the Liberal Democrat candidate for the Winchester by-election. Out canvassing with *The Times* yesterday morning, the former MP who won the Hampshire seat by two votes in May, had just been hooted by three drivers who slowed down to give him the thumbs up. Similarly, nearly all the local people he had visited, from old folk to young students, had expressed their support for the Lib Dems.

Almost embarrassed at this demonstration of popular support, Mr Oaten insisted: "We've still got a lot of work to do. We cannot be complacent." The Liberal Democrats are desperate to paint the November 20 poll as a very close two-horse race with the Tories.

Nominations close this afternoon for the by-election which was called after the High Court declared the general election result void. Ballot paper irregularities showed that Gerald Malone, the sitting Tory MP, would have won by two votes if some incorrectly stamped papers had been counted.

The Lib Dems believe the closeness of the May result will persuade people to vote tactically against the Tories. They hope particularly to squeeze a few votes from the 6,000 people who backed Labour in May.

Labour is countering this threat by talking up the Liberal Democrat's chances. They claim their private polling figures show Mr Oaten winning with a 3,000-votemajority. This, they hope, will stop too many Labour voters feeling any need to shift their support to the Liberal Democrats.

Patrick Davies, the Labour candidate, said: "If the Tories had any chance of winning Winchester, would they have held Beckenham on the same day?"

The Liberal Democrats are also fighting to keep on board disillusioned Tories who backed them in May, and a straw poll on the streets yesterday indicated they might succeed. Richard Knowles, 37, a businessman, voiced a popular sentiment: "There is a strong element of sour grapes about his refusal to accept the general election result."

One Tory voter who refused to be named added: "He should have just accepted the umpire's decision."

Despite this, Mr Malone was yesterday in a confident mood. He believes his support for William Hague's tough line on a single currency will help woo back Tory voters.

But with odds of 6-5 on both Lib Dems and Tories, local bookies, like most people in Winchester, still believe that the election is still too close to call.

☐ **General election result:** M. Oaten (LD) 26,100; G. Malone (C) 26,098; P. Davies (Lab) 6,528. Lib Dem majority 2.

Mark Oaten: popular but not complacent

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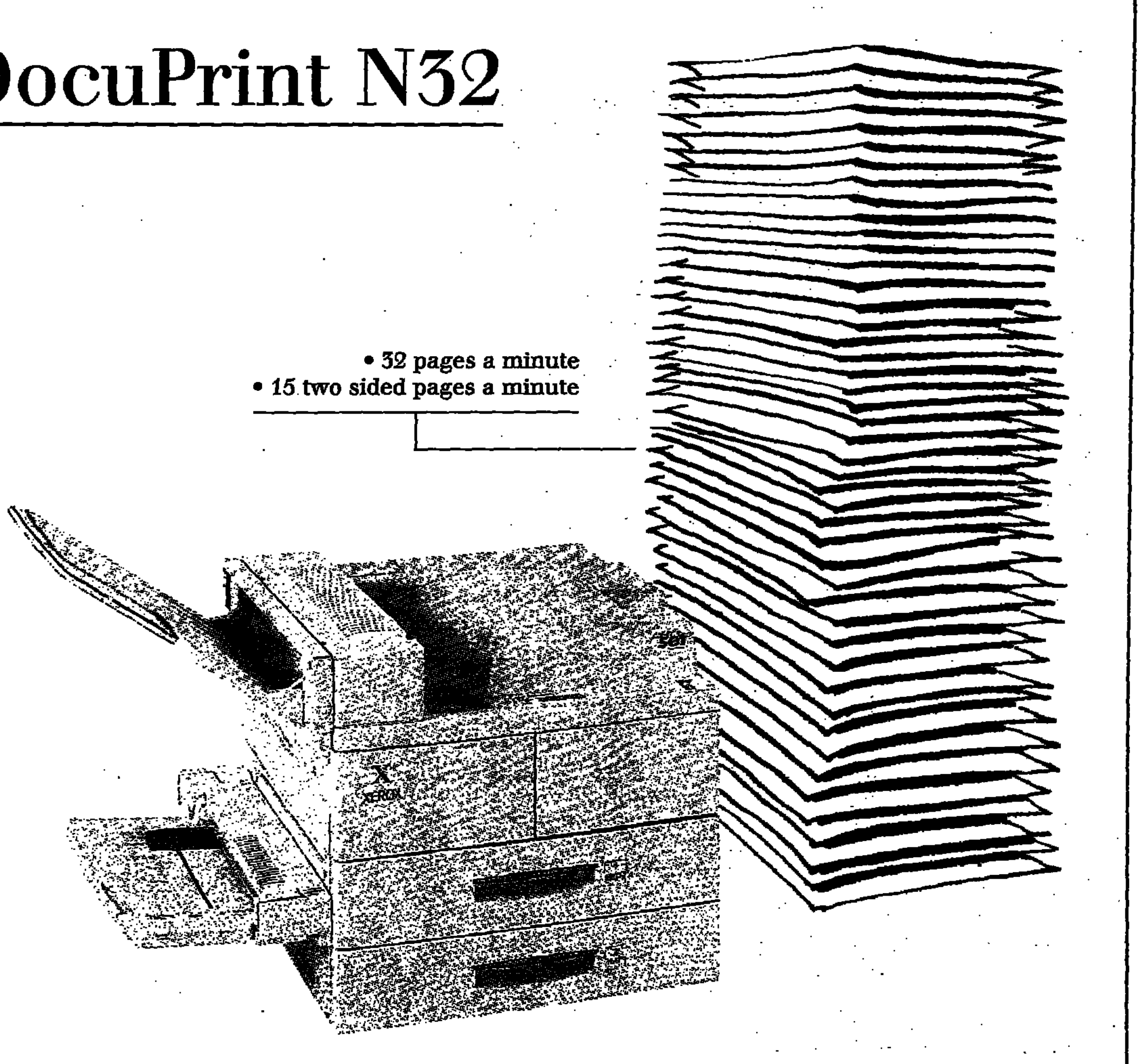

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Free our drivers, Blair tells Jospin

British Prime Minister urges Paris to intervene immediately in the lorry strike, writes **Ben Macintyre**

TONY BLAIR yesterday urged Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, to take swift action to help British lorry drivers stranded by the worsening *drivers' strike* in France, as violence erupted near the port of Boulogne when British drivers broke through a strike blockade.

In a 15-minute telephone conversation described as "robust", Mr Blair warned his French counterpart that the plight of the Britons would be raised at the Anglo-French summit tomorrow and Friday unless the dispute was resolved quickly.

Mr Blair reminded the French Prime Minister that compensation owed to British lorry drivers after last year's strike remains largely unpaid. He said that France should intervene immediately to help British drivers stranded by the dispute, a Downing Street official said. "The French authorities have a duty to help them move on," he said.

M Jospin assured the Prime Minister that his Government was doing its best to bring the strike to an end, but despite increasing calls from France's neighbours for direct government action the French Transport Ministry said that *establishing* "transit corridors" to allow foreign lorries to move freely through France would be "inappropriate".

Neil Kinnock, the European Transport Commissioner, described the strike as deplorable, and his spokeswoman said that legal moves against France for failing to ensure the free movement of goods were being considered. French Transport Ministry officials said that policing transit corridors for foreign lorry drivers would be virtually impossible and could provoke the strikers to far more radical action. They said that rekindling the dialogue between drivers and employers was the only way to *defuse the crisis.*

But negotiations over ending the strike were moving sluggishly. Another round of negotiations between union leaders and haulage bosses lasted just two hours. No date has been set for a resumption of talks, union official said. The largest employers' group, the UFT, which represents more than four fifths of haulage firms, has not yet returned to negotiations, but an official said the group may return to talks today.

Renault, the French carmaker, stopped production at two factories yesterday as the strike began to bite. It said it was laying off workers at assembly plants in Douai and Le Havre after deliveries of spare parts were held up by the strikers.

The number of illegal blockades rose to more than 160 yesterday as strikers demanding higher pay and improved working *conditions dug in for* a long campaign.

On Monday night Jean-Claude Gayssot, the Transport Minister and one of three Communists in the Cabinet, visited a barricade in Le Mans to hear strikers' grievances at first hand.

The economic effects of the strike are becoming apparent. All but one of France's 13 main oil refineries have been sealed *off and Calais and Le Havre* ports remained closed to freight.

Spanish agriculture associations, threatening a boycott of French goods, estimated that the strike could cost Spanish fruit and vegetable producers more than £100 million.

With fuel stocks dwindling, several regional authorities in France requisitioned petrol stations for the use of emergency vehicles and rationing was imposed in many others. Motorists queued for hours to obtain a maximum of £15 worth of petrol.

Panic buying was reported in many *parts* of France and supermarkets said there could be serious shortages by the end of the week.

Oasis, the rock band, cancelled a concert that had been due to take place in Paris last night after their equipment was trapped by a roadblock in northern France.

Police have been reopening some key border crossings and intervening to break up fights, but the Government has made no move to break the strike by force.

Channel port queues force English motorway closure

By Adrian Lee in Calais and Kathryn Knight

THE French lorry strike began to make itself felt in Britain yesterday with the closure of a section of motorway *to* accommodate queuing lorries waiting to get to the Continent.

With drivers now facing delays of up to ten hours to cross the Channel, Kent police were forced to implement Operation Stack on the M20, closing two junctions to create a filter system for drivers waiting to enter Dover. More junctions of the M20 are likely to be closed off in the next few days if the strike continues.

British lorries came under attack yesterday when a convoy of British drivers ran a blockade near Boulogne after being trapped for two nights. French strikers were accused of trying to disconnect air brakes on the 38-tonne vehicles and of causing minor damage to one lorry.

The leading three drivers, Steve *Durbin, Les Reagan* and Russell Forrest, said they saw a gap when spikes were removed to allow a French lorry through. "We just decided to go for it," said Mr Forrest, who was attempting to reach Valencia in Spain. "As I gathered speed, one man tried to grab the airline to lock the brakes."

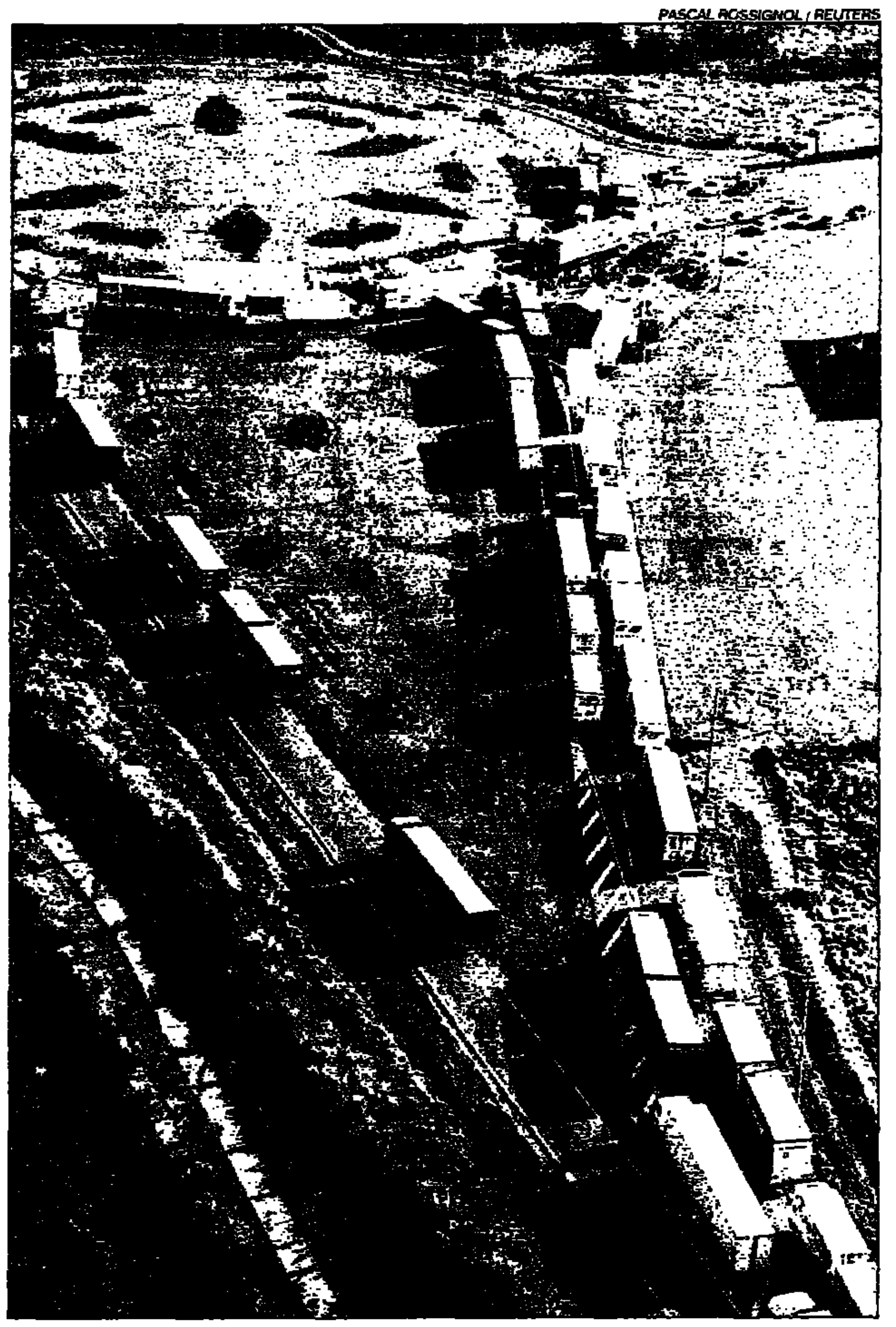
Mr Reagan, 42, who was travelling to Lyons, said: "I just decided to keep going after my two mates. There were about 15 French drivers and by that time they all realised what was going on and were all shouting. One *went* for the *brake* line and kicked out at my lorry."

Two other drivers, Perry Newell, 32, of Hampton, Middlesex, and Pete Barr, 39, of Ashtead, Surrey, decided not to try to get through. They were *later* allowed to go when the French moved the barricade. The strikers' tactics in northern France appeared to involve setting up blockades for a few hours and allowing long *queues* to build up.

The Channel Tunnel was targeted for the first time when drivers placed spikes on the road to the departure terminal at 11.25am. Police gave them an ultimatum to move within two hours and, with two busloads of riot police standing by, the blockade was removed 90 minutes later.

The Road Haulage Association *said yesterday that* there were now up to 150 blockades throughout France.

PASCAL ROSSIGNOL / REUTERS



Striking lorry drivers block the A22 Lille-Ghent autoroute yesterday at Roncoq

Irish lorry attacked as it rams blockade

VIOLENT scenes erupted near Lille last night as a frustrated lorry driver tried to ram his vehicle through barricades put up by striking French drivers.

As an *Irish* driver, who had been halted for 12 hours by more than 200 French lorries, drove through the barriers, French pickets tried to smash his windscreen, and he drove at the crowd, injuring a union leader. Pickets then tried to block his escape route with a van, but he refused to stop and hit the front of the oncoming vehicle.

An angry mob surrounded *the cab of the halted lorry*, and the driver locked his doors. Union organisers pushed the mob away, insisting that they did not want any violence.

Brian Finch, 61, from Bromsgrove in Worcestershire, who saw the incident, said the driver arrived at the blockade at midnight after delivering his load and was returning with an empty lorry to Kilkenny.

"At *first he seemed philo*sophical about it all, but he returned to his lorry after lunch and seemed very frustrated at the continued delay," Mr Finch said.

Police were called to the scene and the unidentified Irishman was arrested and questioned for more than an hour at the scene, before being escorted away in his lorry with a heavy police guard.

The injured union leader was taken to hospital in Lille, but released after receiving stitches in a head wound.

Brussels admits it is powerless to act

From Charles Bremner
in Brussels

GOVERNMENTS and companies across Europe yesterday deluged the European Commission with demands for action against the strike, but the Brussels executive conceded that it had little power to intervene.

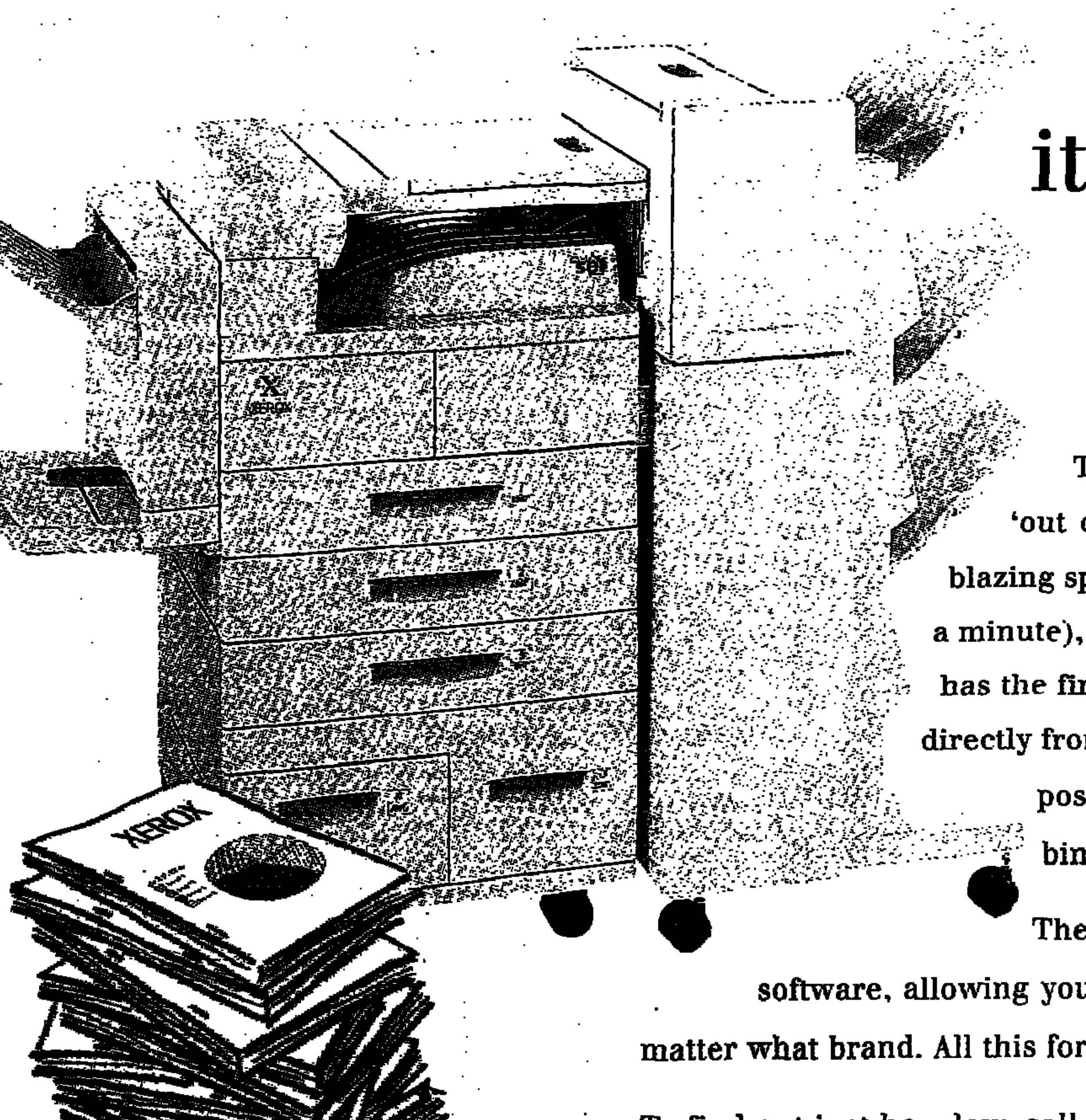
"The phones have been red hot all *morning," said the spokeswoman for* Neil Kinnock, the Transport Commissioner.

The Commission backed a call from the Dutch and Irish to hold an emergency council of transport ministers. Such a session could only be convened by Luxembourg, the current holder of the EU presidency, and it was unclear what results could be achieved.

Germany joined the chorus of complaints with a call to France to respect its obligations to its partners. Denmark is pressing the EU to ensure the passage of vehicles *in transit, but officials said there* were no means to compel France to obey. Mr Kinnock issued a fresh warning to France that it could face legal action for breaching the rules of the single market, but his staff watered this down, saying such a move was a distant last resort.

"Taking legal action against a member state is a very, very serious endeavour," said Mr Kinnock's spokeswoman.

The Commission also said it had no powers to force France to pay compensation. Last week Britain reminded the *French that only a handful of cases from* last year's strike had been compensated and demanded faster action this time.



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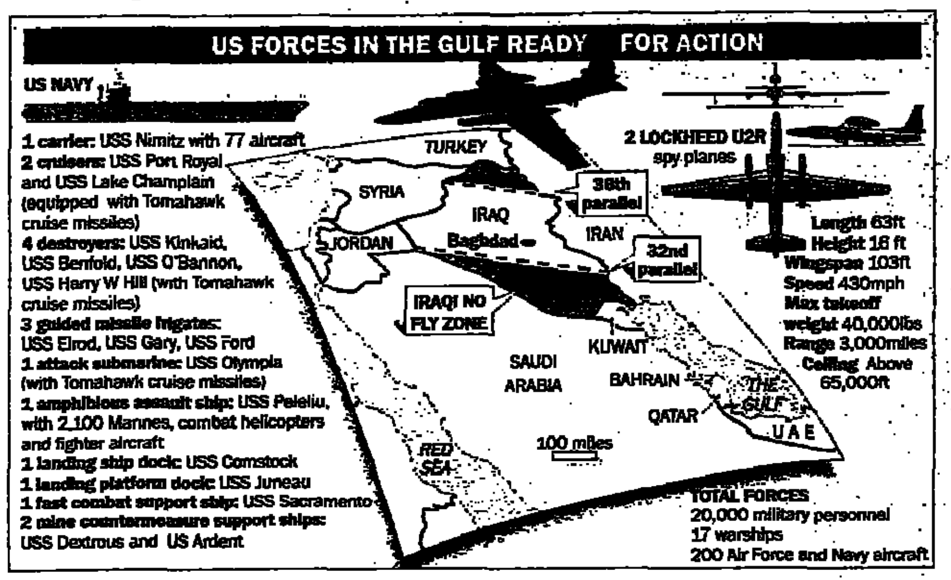
'Diplomacy before airstrikes' for Gulf warships

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent


US FORCES IN THE GULF READY FOR ACTION
US NAVY
1 carrier: USS Nimitz with 77 aircraft
2 cruisers: USS Port Royal and USS Lake Champlain (equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles)
4 destroyers: USS Kinkaid, USS Benfold, USS O'Bannon, USS Harry W Hill (with Tomahawk cruise missiles)
3 guided missile frigates: USS Elrod, USS Gary, USS Ford
1 attack submarine: USS Olympia (with Tomahawk cruise missiles)
1 amphibious assault ship: USS Peleliu, with 2,100 Marines, combat helicopters and fighter aircraft
1 landing ship dock: USS Comstock
1 landing platform dock: USS Juneau
1 fast combat support ship: USS Sacramento
2 mine countermeasure support ships: USS Dextrous and US Ardent
TURKEY
SYRIA
IRAQ
Baghdad
IRAN
JORDAN
36th parallel
32nd parallel
IRAQI NO FLY ZONE
KUWAIT
SAUDI ARABIA
BAHRAIN
QATAR
THE GULF
UAE
RED SEA
100 miles
2 LOCKHEED U2R spy planes
Length 63ft
Height 16 ft
Wingspan 103ft
Speed 430mph
Max takeoff weight 40,000lbs
Range 3,000miles
Ceiling Above 65,000ft
TOTAL FORCES
20,000 military personnel
17 warships
200 Air Force and Navy aircraft

AMERICAN warships in the Gulf, many carrying Tomahawk *cruise missiles*, and combat aircraft are on standby for action against Iraq if the United Nations delegation sent to Baghdad fails to persuade President Saddam Hussein to lift the ban on American arms inspectors.

There are 17 American warships in the Gulf region with the *USS Nimitz*, the nuclear-powered carrier armed with 77 aircraft, patrolling the area as the most potent symbol of American firepower. Seven warships in the region are capable of carrying Tomahawk cruise missiles. They are the two cruisers, *USS Port Royal* and *USS Lake Champlain*, four destroyers, *USS Kincaid*, *USS Benfold*, *USS O'Bannon* and *USS Harry W Hill*, and an attack submarine, *USS Olympia*.

The carrier, which has on board 14 F14As, 24 F/A18Cs, 12 F/A18Bs and four EA6B tactical eletronics warfare aircraft, and an assortment of helicopters, early-warning aircraft and reconnaissance planes, has an impressive array of armaments. They include 4,6000,000lb of air-launched missiles, laser-guided bombs, general purpose bombs and the anti-radar HARM weapon.

Although any military action against Iraq is likely to be confined to airstrikes or cruise missile launches, the US Navy also has in the region a multipurpose amphibious assault ship, *USS Peleliu*, which has on board 2,100 "combat-ready" Marines from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, with three air-cushion landing craft. There are also four Super Cobra attack helicopters, six AV8B Harriers and 16 other combat assault and cargo-carrying helicopters.

The United States Air Force also has a large contingent of combat aircraft based in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere in the Gulf, including F117 Stealth fighters.

The two U2 spy planes which have been overflying Iraqi airspace to monitor attempts by Saddam to conceal weapons of mass destruction and other prohibited weapons from UN arms inspectors are based at Taif in the middle of the Saudi Arabian desert.

These advanced versions of the American spy plane, now called U2Rs, have been flying on most days of the week. Although Saddam has threatened to shoot them down, it seems unlikely that the Iraqis possess air defence missile systems capable of destroying a target at such a high altitude. The U2Rs fly missions at more than 65,000ft. They fly at subsonic speed and have cameras on board that can take minutely detailed close-up photographs of activities on the ground.

U2 planes completed routine flights over Iraqi territory yesterday without incident, a UN source in Baghdad said.

Although the US Air Force has retained two U2s in Saudi Arabia, Paul Beaver, of the *Jane's* defence publications, said that sometimes the Americans used spy planes now based in the South of France on round trips, and occasionally the aircraft still used the US air force base at Fairford, Gloucestershire.

Yesterday Martin Indyk, Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern and Near Eastern Affairs, said in Doha, Qatar, that Washington would await the results of the UN mission to Baghdad before considering military action against Iraq. He said the US was waiting to see whether diplomacy could persuade Saddam to change his mind about ordering all American UN arms inspectors out of the country. "We do not rule out any option, but we will wait for the diplomacy to bear fruit," he said at Doha airport.

Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General, has sent three envoys, an Algerian, an Argentinian and a Swede, to Baghdad to try to resolve the crisis with Iraq. The team is due to arrive in Iraq today.

☐ Doha: Arab defence ministers of the Gulf Co-operation Council have approved a plan to link their military telecommunications networks and set up a common early-warning system, a communiqué said yesterday. The council groups Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and also Bahrain. *(Reuters)*

STEPHANIE MCGEHEE / REUTERS

American forces are on standby in the Gulf. Washington has dismissed Saddam's threats as mere bravado

US vows to retaliate if Saddam fires on spy planes

From Michael Theodoulou in Nicosia
and Tom Rhodes in Washington

IRAQ'S confrontation with the United Nations enters a critical phase today when a three-man UN delegation arrives in Baghdad hoping to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans serving in weapons inspection teams. A deadline set by the Iraqi leader for seven remaining Americans to leave the country expires this evening.

Last night the United States warned Saddam that any Iraqi moves to endanger US reconnaissance aircraft in the region would result in swift American retaliation.

William Cohen, the Secre*tary of Defence, said any* attempt to attack the U2 aircraft scheduled to fly over Iraq this week would result in serious consequences. He was speaking before a White House meeting about Iraq *between President Clinton* and congressional leaders.

As thousands of Iraqis took to the streets in orchestrated demonstrations against the United States, Baghdad declared it would use the meet*ing with the UN delegation to* demand a "short and reasonable" deadline for lifting the "unjust" trade embargo in force since Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait seven years ago. The UN insists it will not *bargain. There are fears any* weakness now could enable Saddam to preserve the remnants of his weapons of mass destruction and even allow him to develop ones that are more difficult to detect.

Yesterday Iraq again blocked routine weapons inspections in and around Baghdad because all three UN teams included Americans. But U2 reconnaissance planes serving UN weapons inspections were flying "without interruption" over Iraq, defying threats from Baghdad to shoot them down, a UN official said.

Washington has dismissed Iraqi threats against the U2s as mere bravado, apparently confident Saddam will not risk provoking swift military retaliation.

The three UN envoys, Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria, Jan Eliasson of Sweden and Argentina's Emilio Cardenas, were expected to leave Iraq within 48 hours. No punitive diplomatic or military action against Iraq is likely before *the delegation reports* back to the Security Council at the end of the week. The mission is led by Mr Brahimi, a highly respected and experienced diplomat who helped to negotiate an end to Lebanon's civil war. *But diplomats said he* could expect a frosty reception from Iraqi officials who see him as an ally of Saudi Arabia.

Even seasoned Saddam watchers were reluctant to *predict his next step.* "It's easier second-guessing Asian stock markets," said an Iraqi businessman in Jordan.

There were suspicions Saddam might even welcome limited American airstrikes *and cruise missile attacks*, calculating they could deepen divisions within the Security Council and rally Arab support.

☐ Moscow: George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, *said yesterday that Russia* firmly supported other permanent members of the Security Council in demanding that Iraq back down in its latest challenge to the international community (Richard Beeston writes).

Despite fears that Moscow might take a more conciliatory line with Baghdad over its expulsion of American members of UN weapons inspection teams, Mr Robertson said that Moscow and Britain had exactly the same policy. He was speaking after meetings with Yevgeni Primakov, the Foreign Minister, and General Igor Sergeyev, the Defence Minister.

Germans 'sold Scud parts to Baghdad'

From Roger Boyes in Bonn

GERMAN involvement in supplying arms to President Saddam Hussein was exposed yesterday as prosecutors accused *four businessmen* of exporting dozens of Scud missile launchers to Iraq.

Prosecutor Ger Neuber, opening the trial in Darmstadt, said the four former managers at Havert Industrie smuggled around 85 rocket launchers to Baghdad as well as various components for Scud B missiles, detonators, explosives, equipment for use in chemical warfare and devices used to attach bombs to aircraft.

In doing so, they broke Germany's arms exports laws and, using faked documents, gained government export guarantees. The men refused to make any public statements to the court. They face jail sentences of up to three years if found guilty. They were named as Gerhard Paul, 51, *Hans-Jürgen Urner, 49, Hans* Friedrich, 60, and Jürgen Bauer, 41.

The men had excellent contacts with the Iraqi authorities. Customs documents filled out by the managers described the body of the Scud rockets as "seamless pipes round in diameter". Military communications equipment was described as "erasers" and school notebooks".

The trial is particularly embarrassing for Bonn as it comes shortly after two other German businessmen were jailed for supplying Libya with electrical components in the manufacture of chemical weapons.

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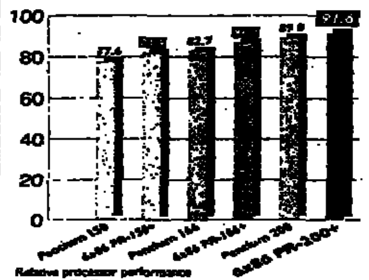

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Zambia opposition leader 'tortured'

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN LUSAKA AND JAN RAATH IN HARARE

A SENIOR Zambian opposition politician has been tortured and starved by security authorities while under detention for alleged involvement in last week's failed military uprising, his lawyer said yesterday.

Dean Mungomba, a former international banker who heads the Zambia Democratic Congress, is the first opposition politician to have been detained under the state of emergency introduced last week. He was arrested on Friday, despite an assurance by President Chiluba that he did not suspect opposition groups of involvement in the brief coup attempt.

He appeared in Lusaka High Court after a judge ordered police to produce him. "He has scars on his hands and bruises all over," John Sangwa, his lawyer, said. "He has been tortured. He has lost a lot of weight. He looks like a patient from a hospital."

During his brief appearace in court, Mr Mungomba was allowed to speak to journalists. He said he was being held in a large cell in police headquarters in the capital, with the alleged coup plotters, including the two captains who seized the state radio station at dawn on Tuesday last week and broadcast that they had overthrown President Chiluba.

Mr Mungomba's 28-day detention order alleges that he had acted with the alleged conspirators. "It is impossible to be involved with these people," he said. The police whisked him away from the court before lawyers could arrange for a doctor to examine him.

Scores of other opposition figures and army officers either have fled the country or have gone into hiding since the security swoop on suspects began last week.

Human rights groups in Zambia have expressed their alarm over Mr Mungomba's detention and the harassment of journalists. The Lusaka-based group Afronet and the Law Association of Zambia condemned Mr Mungomba's arrest and described the declaration of a state of emergency as an abuse of human rights.

The incidents have heightened expectations that the Government will arrest other opposition leaders, including Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, and his political ally, Roger Chongwe, leader of the Liberal Progressive Front. In August the two men were wounded after being fired on by police in what they said was an assassination attempt. They were out of the country when last week's coup attempt took place.

With hardliners in the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy in the ascendant, President Chiluba has proved increasingly impervious to criticism. He has ordered the security forces to break up opposition rallies, targeted the press and lashed out at non-government organisations.

Human rights groups have warned the Government that the state of emergency will again send the wrong signals to foreign governments about political stability and undermine the confidence of investors in the country.

Western diplomats in Lusaka say that Mr Chiluba must tread carefully because donor countries will not take kindly to an assault on the Opposition without the authorities offering any evidence of its involvement in the plot. A freeze on donor aid was eased in July, but the funding is up for review again next month when a meeting of donor countries convenes in Paris.

Hitler's slaves await verdict

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THOUSANDS of former Nazi slave labourers and the German Government will be nervously watching a Bonn courtroom today as a group of elderly Jewish women press home their long-neglected claims for compensation.

The ruling is expected to set a precedent for the survivors of the Third Reich's slave labour programme. Baron Klaus von Münchhausen, who has been campaigning on behalf of the 21 women, says the Nazis used and sold more slaves than the traders who for more than 300 years enslaved millions of Africans.

If the court decides the women can go ahead with individual claims against the Government for loss of earnings and pension rights, the Finance Ministry will have to open its chequebook.

The question is how many former slave labourers can consider the 21 women bringing their case as a precedent. Conservative estimates range from 5,000 to 30,000.

REUTERS

The self-portrait by Rembrandt. The work is believed to date from 1632

Light cast on artist's unknown portrait

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

A PAINTING identified as a self-portrait by Rembrandt goes on display in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum today, after a leading Dutch expert said he had been convinced of its authenticity.

The painting, believed to date from 1632, shows the painter in three-quarters profile, clad in fashionable white ruff, black hat and gloves. The work had hung for years in the bedroom of a Paris art dealer who believed that it was one of many Rembrandt-style works.

After it was bought by a Dutch collector more than a year ago, local experts suspected it was one of the 50 genuine self-portraits. Ernst van de Weterling, an art historian with 30 years as a Rembrandt expert, said his investigation had produced a body of evidence that confirmed the work as an original.

He revealed his conviction of the portrait's genesis in a book called *Rembrandt: The Painter At Work*, published yesterday.

Geimer: breaking her silence after 20 years

Polanski woman denies she was raped

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THE woman in the under-age sex scandal that sent Roman Polanski into exile in Paris has said she was not raped by him, but that their encounter was not consensual.

"He wasn't forceful or mean or anything like that," Samantha Geimer said on television last night. "I just tried to get it over with. I cried after it was all over."

Mrs Geimer, who was 13 at the time of her tryst with the director of *Chinatown*, is now 33, married with two children and living in Hawaii. Her interview was the first in 20 years in which she has allowed herself to be identified, and could make or break Mr Polanski's attempt to be allowed to return to America.

Her relationship with the director, who was then 43, began when he asked her to pose for a photo session in Los Angeles, she said. After persuading her to remove her shirt during the first session he invited her to another at the home of Jack Nicholson, the actor, where he said "the light would be better".

There they drank champagne, she remembered, before he photographed her in a hot bath and joined her. That was "when I realised something was wrong", she said. She protested before having sex, she said, but did not refuse for fear of his reaction.

Mrs Geimer said she did not "feel like a victim" and had no objection to Mr Polanski returning to the US. He fled in 1977 after pleading guilty to a charge of unlawful intercourse with a minor, for which he faced up to three years in jail. As part of a plea bargain, a more serious rape charge was dropped.

Mr Polanski's wife, Sharon Tate, had recently been murdered by Charles Manson.

Mrs Geimer explained her eagerness to take part in the photo shoot as the impulse of a young girl bent on stardom. "In my 13-year-old mind I was thinking 'When you're a model, this is how you're expected to act'," she said.

US tour polishes Jiang's sullied image

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING

A BEAMING President Jiang Zemin flew back to Beijing from a controversial visit to the United States yesterday, having apparently achieved his aim of boosting his image as a world statesman while giving little away on vital issues.

Asked during a brief welcoming ceremony if he was happy with the trip, the Chinese leader, 71, said: "Very happy."

Beijing's suppression of political and religious freedom has earned the Chinese leadership international criticism, an image President Jiang was eager to dispel. But he gave little ground on such issues as human rights, Tibet and Taiwan, diplomats noted. Predictably, the Chinese Foreign Ministry yesterday pronounced the eight-day visit a great success.

Mr Jiang shook hands with Li Peng, the Prime Minister and number two figure in the Chinese leadership, at a short welcoming ceremony in Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

Diplomats say the President, with the advantages of the trip to the United States, and a new and better personal relationship with President Clinton, has built on earlier gains he made this year after taking over the helm following the death of Deng Xiaoping. Mr Jiang, who besides being President and party chief, is the top figure in the army, has this year also successfully presided over the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong from Britain, and the 15th Party Congress, when he sidelined rivals.

"Jiang got good marks, and the success of the American trip has consolidated Jiang's position within the political establishment as China's top leader," said one foreign diplomat in Beijing. "He already held all the reins of power, but given he had not the revolutionary credentials of Deng or Mao, he needed to put his personal stamp on the leadership, which to a large extent he has now succeeded in doing."

There has been no hint in the Chinese press that President Jiang was anything but warmly welcomed wherever he went in the United States. There was no reporting in the controlled press of demonstrations calling for a free Tibet or an independent Taiwan. President Jiang admitted in the US, however, that protesters who dogged his steps taught him something about American democracy.

New Zealand poll hint

Wellington: New Zealand could be faced with an early election if Winston Peters, the New Zealand First party leader, fulfils his threat to pull his party out of the coalition Government because he was not consulted about leadership changes in the National Party (Cathie Bell writes).

Jenny Shipley, the Transport Minister, forced Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, to resign after getting sufficient support to topple him during the two weeks he was at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh and on an official visit to France.

Mrs Shipley, 45, seemed almost certain to become Prime Minister until Mr Peters voiced his opposition.

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Conscience of Delhi stirs over animals' burden

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THE Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights activists, in a country where large parts of the economy depend on overworked beasts of burden.

The bullock, *vital to small* farmers, is perhaps the most routinely tortured species. Owners inflict pain to force bullocks to haul huge loads: some use chilli powder on sensitive parts of the body to make them work harder.

Most of the animals are sent to slaughterhouses while still young because they quickly become too weak to work. There are an estimated 15 million working bullocks in India, and most suffer damaged necks — the usual reason for premature retirement — from hauling excessive loads.

The owners say their animals have to carry large loads to compete with lorries. They usually buy frail animals cheaply from auctions and work them until they drop. The law, never enforced, provides for a fine of 100 rupees (£1.75) for beating, ill-treating or torturing an animal. The *practice of castrating bullocks* by tying them by all four legs and smashing their genitals with a rod is commonplace.

However, the Government is tackling one of the most familiar and disturbing images of urban India: caged and often dying birds being carried around on the backs of bicycles by hawkers. India has reinforced a ban on bird trapping to save hundreds of exotic species from one of the country's cruellest and oldest traditions.

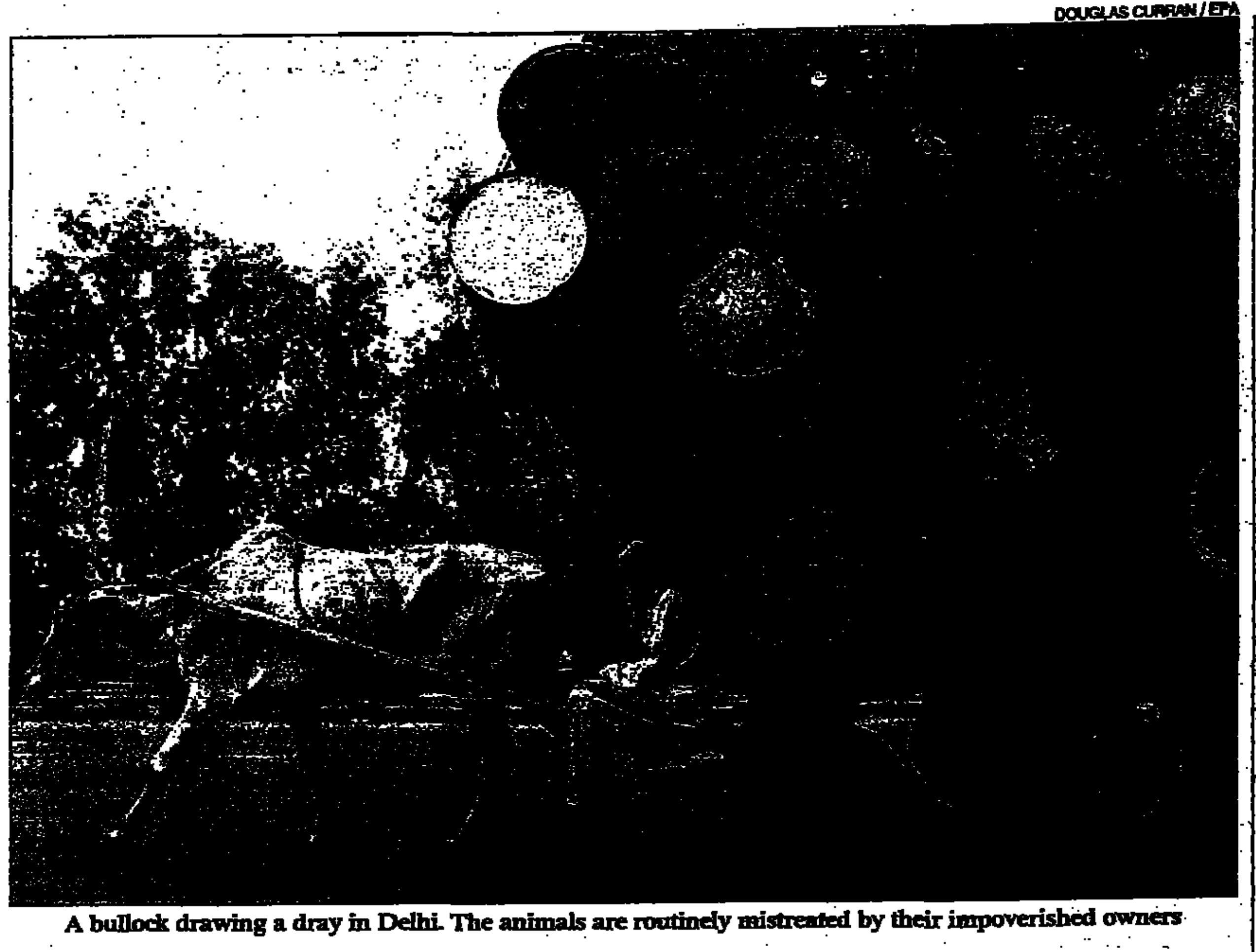
The trade is pursued mostly by tribal Indians, whose collective knowledge of breeds, habitat and migration habits of colourful birds is almost unequalled. They use the same trapping techniques devised centuries ago, often involving nothing more than string and a noose. Perhaps 30,000 people depend on the trade.

Effective controls over cruel*ty to animals* are scarce in a country where there is so much cruelty to humans, especially to hundreds of thousands of children producing fireworks, cigarettes, matches, carpets, glass and other goods. But animal welfare is creeping on to the political agenda and the effort to control bird trafficking promises to be one of the most effective moves against animal torture.

The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 was reinforced in 1990 to control the export of live birds; recent provisions have extended the law to local trading in live birds. The main domestic traders are pet-shop owners. Middlemen seek exotic birds for foreign buyers. The export ban is reasonably easy to enforce because of the visibility of the trade. But customs inspectors are sometimes bribed and bird sellers continue to operate openly in most Indian cities. The birds are kept in tiny cages and die if they are not quickly sold.

Perhaps the most fortunate animals in India are cows, hundreds of thousands of which wander the streets, devouring leftovers from homes and vegetable markets. Many are diseased, however. Until a few years ago cowcatchers in Delhi used to remove the animals and put them into compounds, but the practice was halted when Hindu religious leaders protested.

Packs of stray dogs, now protected against capture and slaughter despite the threat of rabies, add to Delhi's burgeoning animal population.


DOUGLAS CURRAN / EPA

A bullock drawing a dray in Delhi. The animals are routinely mistreated by their impoverished owners

Argentine President is invited to Britain

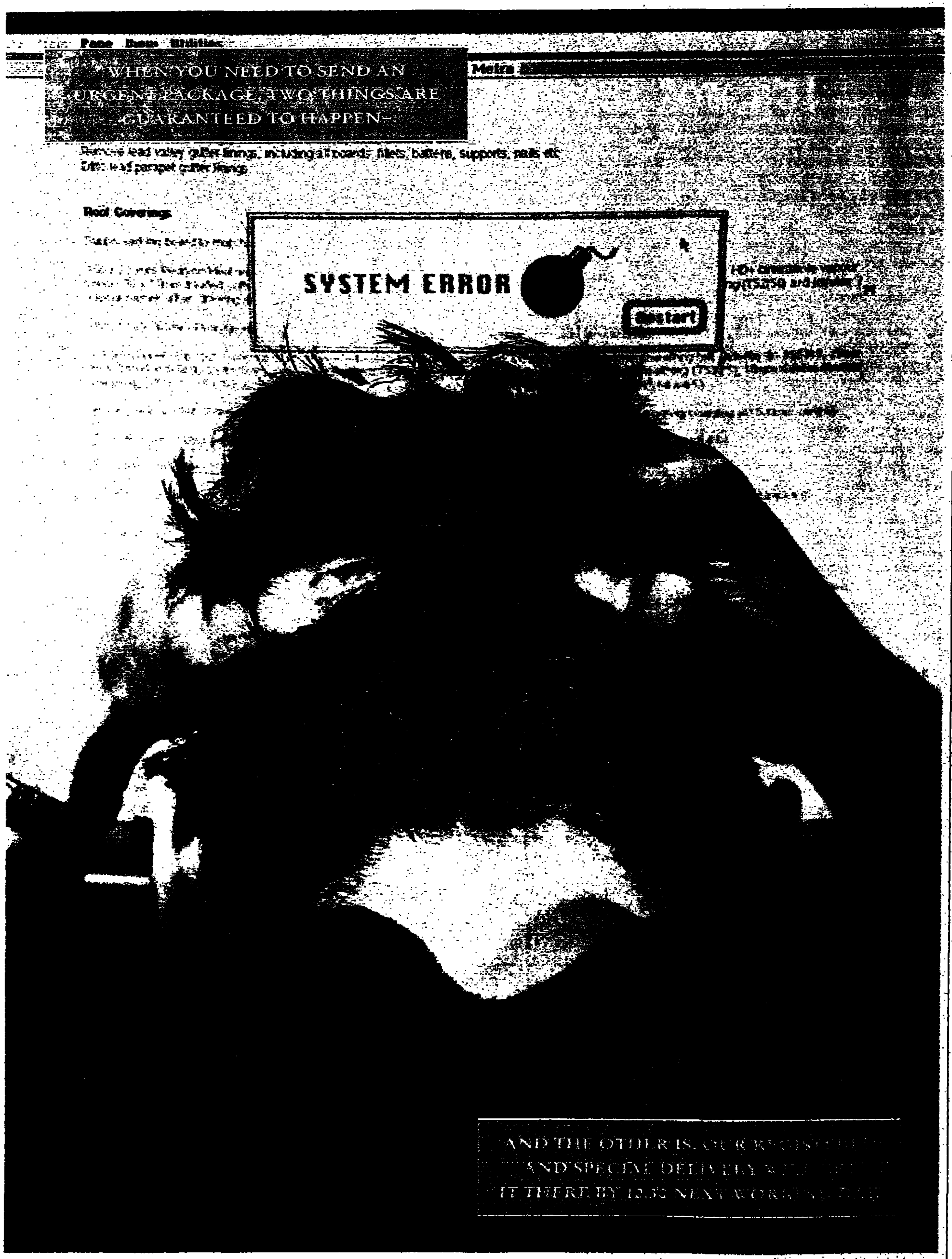
BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE Government invited President Menem of Argentina yesterday to pay an official visit to Britain in recognition of burgeoning trade and political relations and his efforts to improve relations since the Falklands war.

No date was set, but in talks yesterday between Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and Guido di Tella, the Argentine Foreign Minister, it was suggested that Señor Menem might come in the second half of next year. His term of office expires in 1999 and he is constitutionally barred from running again.

An invitation was extended originally by John Major at the United Nations in September 1995, when Britain signed a new oil agreement on underwater exploration around the Falklands.

The invitation was then put on hold because the Conservatives did not want possible controversy over the islands to surface before the general election.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WORLD IN BRIEF

4,000 feared dead in Vietnam storm

Hanoi: At least 132 people were killed and up to 4,000, most of them fishermen, were missing after a typhoon hit Vietnam's southern coast.

Thousands were left homeless by Typhoon Linda, which destroyed buildings, roads, bridges and dykes at the weekend before heading west to the southern coast of Thailand. Thai government officials said Linda killed two people and injured two on Monday night as it moved towards Bangladesh, but it lost some of its power and was downgraded to a tropical storm. About 1,330 boats foundered and a further 1,500 disappeared. At least three fishermen would have been on board each of the boats that have disappeared. *(Reuters)*

Floods sweep East Africa

Nairobi: Floods and rain across the eastern highlands of Ethiopia, southern Somalia and northern Kenya have killed dozens of people and displaced thousands of others, aid agencies reported. They said torrential storms and floods blamed on the El Nino phenomenon have washed away roads, affecting countries up and down East Africa in the past ten days, and feared there could be worse to come. "If the rains continue to be as heavy as they have been in the past week, we could be looking at a major crisis," said Burk Oberle, Somalia director of the United Nations World Food Programme. *(AFP)*

Plea by backpacker killer

Sydney: Ivan Milat, right, the Australian jailed last year for life for the murder of seven backpackers, including two British women, appealed against his conviction in person yesterday (Roger Maynard writes). Milat, 53, told three judges in Sydney that his case had been prejudiced by pre-trial publicity. He argued that evidence given by Paul Onions, a British tourist attacked by a man fitting Milat's description, had been misrepresented in the judge's summing-up.

US hardens Sudan sanctions

Washington: Citing Sudan's support for terrorism, the United States is imposing severe economic sanctions that include a ban on bank loans and seizure of Sudanese assets in the United States. President Clinton signed an executive order also barring the shipment of American technology to Sudan and the importation of its goods. Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, said: "We take these steps because the Government of Sudan has failed to respond to repeated expressions of concern or to the imposition of lesser sanctions." *(AP)*

Nuclear protesters arrested

Hamburg: German police detained 64 activists demonstrating outside a north German nuclear power station, where a shipment of radioactive waste bound for the Sellafield reprocessing plant in Cumbria began its journey. The police said that the protesters had tried to prevent a railway engine from entering the grounds of the Kruemmel power plant, just east of Hamburg. The power plant operators said that the train left for England during the afternoon. *(Reuters)*

MP tells of 'Rao bribe'

Delhi: An Indian court here began hearings on vote-buying charges against P.V. Narasimha Rao, left, the former Indian Prime Minister. The court heard Shailendra Mahato, an opposition MP, claim that he had received more than £68,000 for helping save Mr Rao's minority Government during a parliamentary vote in 1993. The bribes were allegedly paid to four members of a regional party and seven others from an opposition group to side with the Government. *(AFP)*

Afghan short cut to paradise

Kabul: The Taleban are cutting hair forcibly in Kabul in their drive to turn Afghanistan into a pure Islamic state. "We are cutting hair that hangs over the forehead because when you pray it gets in the way of your forehead touching the ground; the Devil stands between you and God," said Maulawi Abdul Rashid Darkasti, of the Taleban religious police, formally known as the Department for Promoting Virtue and Preventing Vice. *(Reuters)*

Thai coalition seeks leader

Bangkok: Thailand's shaky coalition Government is struggling to agree on a successor to Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the Prime Minister, who plans to resign this week. The six-party coalition, in power for 11 months, has agreed to remain together but has yet to decide who would replace Mr Chavalit, who has been under pressure because of the country's economic crisis. *(Reuters)*

Peak-rate calls for troops

Srinagar: India has installed what is claimed to be the world's highest public telephone booth on the 20,000 ft Siachen Glacier in Kashmir so that soldiers fighting in a border dispute with Pakistan can call home as a morale booster. *(Reuters)*

Diana police call in Fiat owners

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH police investigating the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, have begun calling in thousands of Fiat Uno car owners for questioning in an attempt to find a vehicle that may have collided with the Mercedes limousine carrying the Princess moments before her fatal accident.

Chemical and spectrographic analysis of scrapes found on the right side of the wrecked Mercedes have identified a white paint corresponding to a type known as *bianco-corfu*, used by Fiat on its Uno model between 1983 and August 1989. Some 40,000 Fiat Unos with those specifications are registered in France.

The police search, which could take months, began in the Hauts-de-Seine region on the outskirts of Paris, where 1,800 such cars are registered. Owners were summoned for interview.

If the car is not found in the initial sweep, the hunt will be extended to another 70,000 Fiat Uno owners in France and then to other makes of car.

Last week scientists from the National Police Institute for Criminal Research outside Paris submitted a forensic report to Hervé Stéphan, the magistrate leading the investigation, which concluded that the scrapes were most probably left by a Fiat Uno.

The paint scrapes also correspond to paint used on three additional Fiat models and six other makes of car, but the Fiat Uno theory is reinforced by the discovery of fragments of a Fiat Uno rear brake light some 30 yards before the point of impact. The Mercedes has been completely dismantled and is still being examined.

☐ Berlin: Just two months after her death, Diana, Princess of Wales, has become the subject of an academic course at Berlin's Free University. "Myths and politics: Diana — from the Princess of Wales to the Queen of Hearts" is a 14-part lecture series launched last week by the university's political science department. *(Reuters)*

Playboy scientist gives astrology five-star rating

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A WIDE-RANGING statistical study charting the influence of star signs on marriage, work, love and death has been produced by the unlikely figure of Gunther Sachs, famed as one of Europe's most energetic playboys.

His book, *The Astrology File*, is set to become a bestseller in Germany if only because of readers' curiosity about the silver-haired millionaire who was once married to Brigitte Bardot; he is a constant feature of tabloids as an habitué of nightclubs and ski slopes. The book does, however, make a serious attempt to test the assumptions of newspaper astrologists and concludes that star signs do play a significant part in shaping lives.

Mr Sachs, who studied mathematics, set up an institute for "the empirical and mathematical examination of the possible truth of astrology in relation to human behaviour". Two well-known statisticians from Munich University double-checked to ensure no distortion had crept into the analysis of the data, mostly from Swiss authorities. Switzerland has held a regular census since 1850. Since 1875 it has recorded the hour of birth of every citizen.

The scientists studied all marriages conducted in Switzerland between 1987 and 1994 — focusing on 717,526 men and women. Marriage and divorce figures were correlated. After all the obvious distortions had been factored out, Mr Sachs's team of scientists agreed on the three most durably attracted star partnerships: Capricorn male with Pisces woman; Pisces man with Scorpio woman; Gemini man with Taurus woman. The three most tenuous relationships appear to be: Libra male with Aries women; Aries man with Leo woman; Gemini man with Capricorn woman.

Mr Sachs, a 65-year-old Scorpio, said that "the husband of a Gemini woman lives with a higher than average risk of divorce". He has himself been married to a Gemini, the former Swedish model Mirja, for 28 years. "I hope that this status quo persists in spite of the stars."

Mr Sachs, who became a Swiss citizen, also examined 1,195,174 Swiss deaths between 1969 and 1994. Narrowing the causes of death to 20, he found disturbing patterns: Leos had a tendency to die of strokes, Leos and Librans were prone to lung cancer, Scorpios and Capricorns to stomach cancer, and Pisces were vulnerable to accidental death and breast cancer.

The database for suicide was narrower — 30,358 men and women — but enough to draw conclusions: Taurus, Pisces and Cancers were more likely to kill themselves; Librans and Sagittarians were least likely. Pisces suicides preferred sleeping pills, Taurus exhaust fumes and Cancers often shot themselves.

Data from the British Accident and Insurance Management company, collecting information on those involved in 25,000 car accidents, showed that Taurus and Virgo drivers were more accident-prone, while Leos and Scorpios were better drivers. Data from 231,036 German students confirmed stereotypes of newspaper astrologists: Librans showed a significant inclination to study law.

Mr Sachs claims his study was "the first time that astrology has been put on a scientifically supported basis". He argues that astrology is a source of fascination for individuals and governments, yet they are embarrassed to declare their interest. "Astrology is like a fiery red-haired, well-endowed, much-desired mistress — who is nonetheless hidden away from the world." It took a playboy scientist, he says, to bring this passion into the open.

Sachs and his former wife, Brigitte Bardot, in Spain

Sachs and present wife, Mirja. According to his theory, it is a star-crossed match

Moscow signs up for mine clearance

BY RICHARD BEESTON

RUSSIA yesterday signalled that it was serious about its pledge to ban landmines, when the Defence Minister promised to work with Britain on a project to promote mine clearance around the world.

Speaking after a meeting in Moscow with George Robertson, the visiting Defence Secretary, General Igor Sergeyev said a Russian team of experts would come to Britain next year to co-ordinate efforts with the British Army. Last week Mr Robertson announced plans for the opening early next year of a Mine Information and Training Centre which will assist organisations involved in clearing mines.

Russia was the first country to be invited and General Sergeyev accepted immediately and reiterated his support for President Yeltsin's surprise announcement last month in Strasbourg that Moscow would join the Ottawa Process to ban anti-personnel mines. The endorsement of the military is regarded as vital because Russia is one of the world's largest manufacturers of mines and used them extensively during conflicts from Afghanistan in the 1980s to Chechnya in the mid-1990s.

Mr Robertson and General Sergeyev also agreed to strengthen military ties by establishing meetings of senior military officers and endorsed plans for regular joint manoeuvres by their navies.

Mir orbits Earth with door open

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S cosmonauts faced a new peril in the space station Mir yesterday, when mission control announced that the outer hatch on the orbiter had not closed properly.

After several successful efforts to repair Mir, including spacewalks and the replacement of the onboard computer, the two Russian cosmonauts and one American astronaut were faced with the uncomfortable prospect of effectively orbiting the Earth with their door open.

The problem arose after Anatoli Solovyov, Mir's commander, and Pavel Vinogradov, the flight engineer, completed a gruelling six-hour spacewalk on Monday to remove a solar panel, which will be replaced tomorrow during a second spacewalk.

The operation was delayed after mission control in Moscow reported that Mr Solovyov's spacesuit was not functioning properly and was failing to transmit information about oxygen supplies and other vital data. The walk went ahead regardless, but after the two Russians returned through the Kvant-2 module they realised that the outer hatch had not been sealed properly.

"When they came into [one of the airlocks]," an official for mission control, outside Moscow, said, "they realised that the hatch had not been closed airtight." She said that the problem did not endanger the crew. The module has three airtight compartments and similar malfunctions in the past have been overcome.

The setback is a relatively minor blip on what has been a comparatively accident-free period for Mir. But earlier this year the space station suffered a serious fire, the failure of its oxygen generators and, in the summer, the orbiter was badly damaged in a collision with a supply ship.

Balkans leaders set sights on prosperity

FROM REUTERS IN AGIA PELAGIA, CRETE

BALKAN nations called yesterday for their bloodstained history to be put behind them and replaced by an era of peace and prosperity.

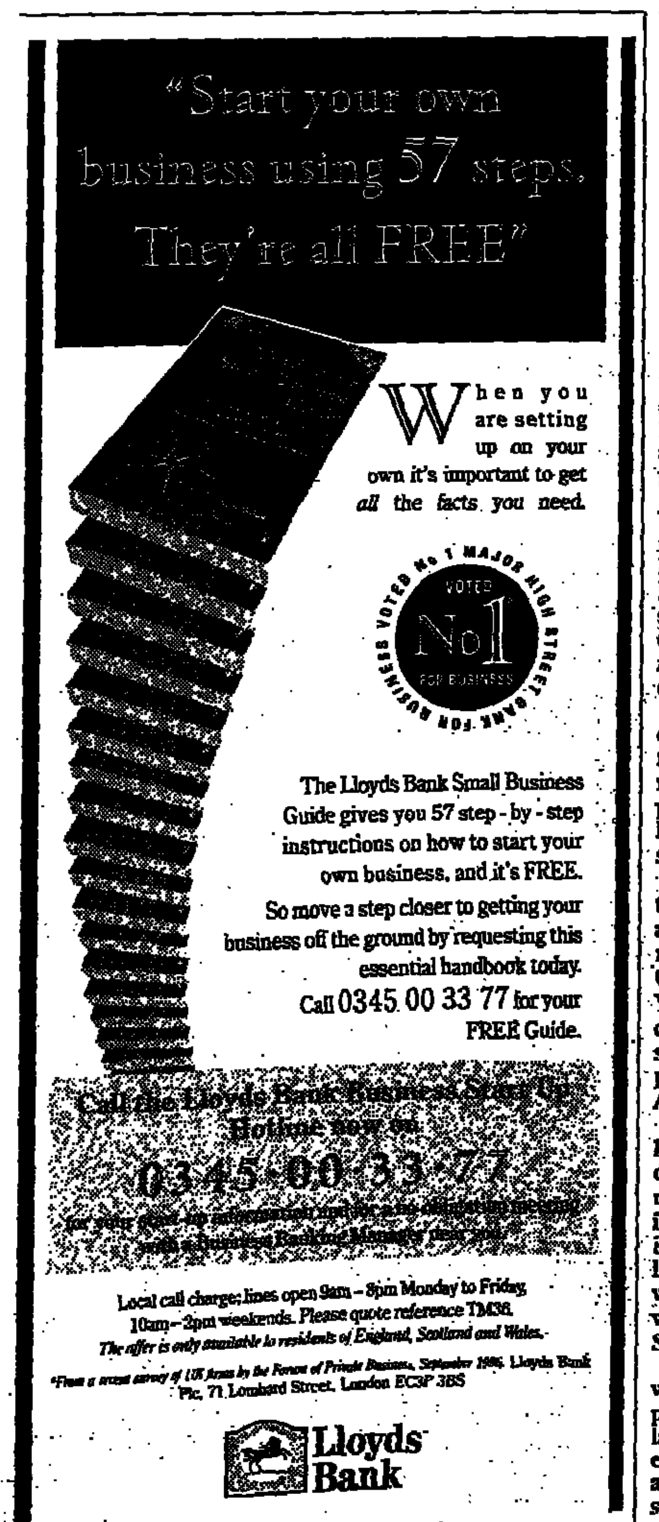
Greece, Turkey, Romania, Yugoslavia, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria and Bosnia ended a two-day summit on Crete agreeing to create a framework for economic growth and political co-operation.

"We shall work together to create in our region conditions for the prosperity of our nations in a framework of peace, security, good-neighbourliness and stability," they said in a final declaration.

But the leaders did not have to look far to see how difficult a task they face. A bilateral meeting on Monday between Costas Simitis and Mesut Yilmaz, the Prime Ministers of Greece and Turkey, made scant progress in solving their problems over Cyprus and the Aegean.

Despite the failure, the Balkan nations all said they were determined to build closer regional ties — accepting that it would take time. "The road is still long. These countries, like us, have problems. But we hope that with time they will be able to face them," Mr Simitis said.

The leaders set up a framework for future links and promised to harmonise their laws, break down trade barriers, support the rule of law, and fight crime and drug smuggling across the region.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هكذا من الاصل

Women – the inferior sex

In our final extract of his biography of Alfred Kinsey, **James H. Jones** looks at how Kinsey's dismissive, misogynistic attitude to women's sexuality was greatly at odds with his philosophy of sexual liberation

CORBIS-BETTMANN / UPI

Many Americans did not want to hear what Kinsey had to say, fearing he would knock women off their pedestals; others were afraid he would not

Alfred Kinsey made little effort to conceal his low estimation of women's sexuality. In 1948 he told a journalist that the average girl under 20 engaged in sexual activity for social, not sexual, reasons: "It means dates with boys, automobile rides, shows and hilarious company. If intercourse is part of the tax, OK, so long as the other girls in her group are similarly involved." For emphasis, he added: "The drive involves the boy, not the girl."

Many women who had read the male volume took umbrage at his remarks. Some wrote, hoping to disabuse him of his misconceptions. All insisted females were not sexually inferior to males. A few claimed superiority. None made the case for female sexuality more forcefully than a 35-year-old from the Midwest with two young sons. A single parent, her main outlet was masturbation. "I have an outlet of approximately 130 a month," she wrote. "I know six women whose husbands could only partially satisfy them."

Many Americans did not want to hear what Kinsey had to say, fearing he would knock women off their pedestals. Others were afraid he wouldn't. Kinsey was in a bind. Politically speaking, his opinion of female sexuality was counterproductive. It did not fit in with his ideology of sexual liberation. For if he was predisposed to discount women's sexual capacity, he put the highest premium on the need for a sexual revolution. But how was the revolution to be achieved if half the troops were not at the barricades? It was far from clear whether Kinsey would resolve the tension between his misogyny and his life's mission.

Kinsey and Wardell Pomeroy did most of the interviewing for the female volume. The fact that no women were incuded among the interviewers for the male volume was not lost on the female subjects. Declaring herself "somewhat perturbed to learn that a large part of the investigation of women's sex life is being done by men", a woman from Pennsylvania said: "I feel that this is a grave mistake. But the absence of female interviewers did not stop women co-operating; indeed, volunteers lined up in droves to offer their histories. Many were curious about what the experience would be like, some had problems they hoped to solve, while others held liberal views on sex. Some, however, wished to support science.

Kinsey began writing in the summer of 1951, and continued for the next 18 months. To improve the sample, he removed prisoners and many lower-class subjects, and cleaned up most of the minor statistical errors that had annoyed reviewers of the male volume. He also increased the number of cases supporting the text, providing a firmer factual foundation for his data. Many of his statements drew on his personal observations of human sexual behaviour, as well as his observations of the sexual behaviour of lower mammals.

A lot of women took umbrage at Kinsey's remarks

As with men, Kinsey's data showed a wide gap between the conduct society expected of women and how they actually behaved. Kinsey found 62 per cent of the women in his sample had masturbated; 66 per cent had had sex dreams; 90 per cent had petted; nearly 50 per cent had had premarital intercourse; 26 per cent had extramarital intercourse; 13 per cent had had at least one homosexual contact that resulted in orgasm; and 3.6 per cent had had at least one sexual contact with a lower animal.

These figures were bound to produce an uproar. Yet in many respects, these revelations contained few surprises, and these were of degree rather than kind. People familiar with the male volume understood there was a gap between the prescribed and the actual sexual behaviour of men. There was no reason not to expect similar revelations for women.

Kinsey found much to commend in extramarital sex. After noting that it was more common and more often tolerated in men than in women, he discussed the social reasons why women had affairs. Many took lovers to relieve sexual boredom, others to accommodate valued friends. Some did so to retaliate against a spouse who had cheated, still others to assert personal independence, either from a spouse or the social code.

Although he acknowledged that adultery often caused friction and not infrequently led to divorce, Kinsey made it clear that such disturbances were far from inevitable. In some cases the "sexual adjustments with the spouse had improved as a result of the female's extramarital experience". But adultery was not for those easily intimidated by social mores. Rather, it could be handled successfully only by those capable of overriding social mores with willpower, people who sounded suspiciously like Kinsey and his inner circle.

Yet for all its limitations, *Sexual Behaviour in the Human Female* remains a provocative and personal work. It reveals the scientific philosophy and methodology, the private passions, values and prejudices, the social agenda and, above all, the inner conflicts of its author.

● Alfred C Kinsey: A Public/Private Life, *by James H. Jones, is published on November 12 by Norton, £28*

KINSEY'S IDEAL MATE

CLARA Bracken McMillen was the ideal mate for Kinsey. While he was eager to begin a female relationship, it had to be with a woman who was secure and unafraid to make the first move; a woman who could look beyond the awkwardness to see his merit. Clara fitted the bill. Not only was she friendly, confident and self-possessed; she was *strongly attracted to Kinsey*.

Photographs show a short-waisted, slightly plump, round-faced young woman. Her eyes were bright and lively, and she wore her hair in a Dutch bob. Had she worked on her appearance, Clara might have turned some heads. But she seemed oblivious to her looks. If anything, Clara looked downright boyish. Her style of dressing was masculine and her taste in clothes frumpish.

Clara's looks and taste in clothes may have enhanced her appeal to Kinsey. He probably preferred a woman who did little to accentuate her femininity. Still, Kinsey must have been warmed by *Clara's character. She was* poised and self-confident, highly competitive and, most important, calm and unflappable, a woman of great inner strength.

Nor is it difficult to understand what Clara saw in Kinsey. Handsome and athletic looking, he was obviously brilliant and he gave every *indication* of knowing what he wanted in life. Above all, he was a devoted scientist.

Clara Kinsey

Both were virgins when they started dating. Nor were they unusual in this regard. Yet, in Kinsey's case, traditional morality had an ally. His restraint probably had as much to do with sexual conflicts as with moral rectitude. His behaviour fits the pattern of many homosexual males forming a heterosexual relationship. Recent *studies show that gay men* who become engaged often fail to make any efforts at seduction. *This is especially* true of men with little experience with women, as they tend to feel anxious about their ability to perform. While Kinsey's feelings toward Clara may not have been this troubled, it seems *doubtful* whether he made serious intimate advances. Because of his lack of experience, his intense moral inhibitions and his confusion about his sexual identity, Kinsey probably *shared the ambivalence that* many homosexuals feel about having intercourse with their fiancées.

In the event, their marriage was not consummated on their honeymoon, nor for several months thereafter. Kinsey later confided to a *friend that the problem in*volved both inexperience and physiology. "Kinsey wasn't altogether clear how to go about this," explained a friend, "and secondly, Clara was quite apprehensive."

But, far from being unique, Kinsey and Clara's experience illustrated what critics had been charging all along: society was not preparing young people for marriage. In theory, husbands were supposed to *teach wives, but in practice* men often did not know enough to fulfil their duty.

How Kinsey and Clara coped with their honeymoon remains unknown. That they would have discussed the problem candidly is unlikely. Still, they did not allow their sexual problems to end their marriage; and the fact that they stayed together relieved a great deal of pressure. It was a sign that each valued the relationship. To remain together without consummating their marriage, Kinsey and Clara had to agree to compromise on what most couples considered fundamental. That kind of resilience and flexibility was to become a sa*lient feature* of their marriage.

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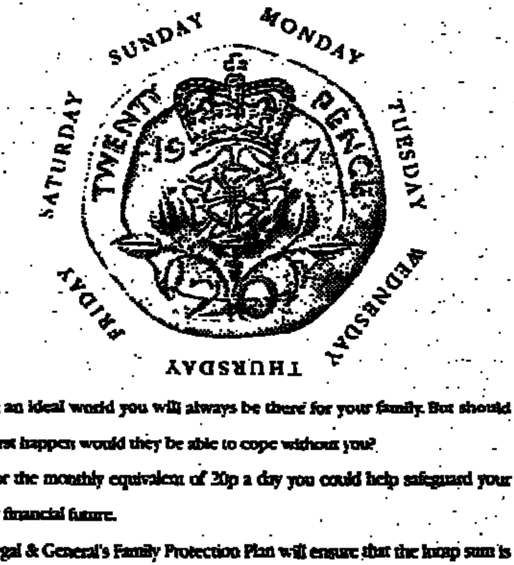

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Toddlers on track for success

In pursuit of academic success, private schools are testing two-year-olds. **Moira Petty** reports

They are little more than babies but 2½-year-old Ami and three-year-old Mary are on trial. As they go through their unselfconscious paces before the staff and head of Palmers Green High School, every smile, every word, every gesture of co-operation — or their absence — will be interpreted and analysed.

Those tots who pass the appraisal will be on the fast track to academic success. At three years old, they will embark on a curriculum that will lead to each girl gaining an average of ten GCSEs.

By four, they will be in possession of the straw boater and bright green blazer that is the trademark uniform of the London school where the ethos is one of high motivation, lady-like manners, and, says the head, Sian Grant, "keeping cynicism at bay".

With a high ratio of applicants to places (three to one at nursery age, seven to one for entry at 11), the prospect for many is of rejection at a tender age. The selection process, normally carried out behind closed doors, has been filmed for BBC2's *Modern Times* series.

If the toddlers are blithely unaware of the importance of their reaction to the smiling lady who leans across her desk and inquires of them: "How many legs does an octopus have?", their parents realise that they, too, are under scrutiny.

There is a heart-stopping moment when Ami, perched on the knee of her father, newsagent and confectioner Mukul Patel, is asked: "Have you been to a zoo?" As Mr Patel obligingly shakes his head, you can't help feeling that Ami has been condemned because of the parental omission in not introducing her to captive beasts.

Ami was not offered a place. Mr Patel, an honours graduate of an Indian university whose family lives above their shop in Enfield, is still bewildered. His older daughter Karishma, now seven, was also rejected.

"They are bright girls who need direction," he says. "I am very busy, working 14 hours a day, seven days a week in my shop. My wife comes downstairs to help me, so we have little time to spare.

"At one point, the head teacher stopped me explaining to Ami what she had to do. 'Daddy, don't explain to her,' she said. I thought, 'Oh, no. I've done the wrong thing.' I felt shocked."

Jim and Avril Willard, the parents of Mary, had a happier experience and their daughter has been at the school since September. "Mary was asked if she had been on a horse and to the zoo, and she was able to say she had," says Mrs Willard, a biochemist who has taken five years out to be with her daughter.

"Mary is used to a fast tempo. She needs a lot of activity to dissipate her energy. We have a season ticket to the zoo. We go to many museums including the science ones, because she is very mechanically minded. She does gym, ballet, drama, and swimming. We are always out and about, and I see that as my job for now."

Ami Patel: rejected

Mrs Grant, headmistress for nine years of the independent girls' school where fees rise to £1,650 a term, says she is looking for parents "who want the best and who will support us. Have they stimulated the child, or just put her in front of a video and told her to be quiet? Can the parents control the kid's behaviour on a day when they're out to impress? All this is a reflection of values in the home."

Mrs Grant says she is obliged to select those girls who will best be able to cope with the academic tenor of the school, which educates up to the age of 16. But how accurate is her assessment of a two-year-old? In the documentary, she and another member of staff are discussing the youngest applicants. Judgments like "she was a bit of a pudding, I couldn't see that spark", appear intuitive.

Mrs Grant concedes that her system is conducted "in quite an unscientific way". She is seeking children "with those bright eyes, who want to learn, who are interested". They might range from those who are "very verbal" to "another who is thoughtful and wistful, but who watches and absorbs it all".

She believes she "generally picks the right child" but agrees that children do not all mature at the same rate. It seems to be as much a matter of luck as parenting skills if a child's abilities and demeanour coincide with the main intake at ages three and four.

"Some children are ahead on the physical side, but behind in their ability to concentrate and absorb," she confirms. "We do not run a play school. Even the youngest have a timetabled morning which is academically based. Then, when they come into the prep department at four, they are ready."

The advent of league tables has caused what some see as a vicious circle. Testing has therefore become more rigorous. Mrs Grant believes that more schools will include testing of two-year-olds.

The test begins with a stint with the head of the nursery school. She is looking for the signs that a girl is ready to begin reading and writing with good co-ordination and the ability to follow instructions. The toddlers are asked to pick out colours, to count, to join the dots.

Then they are ushered into the head's office, parents in tow. They are encouraged to talk about themselves so that vocabulary and experience may be gauged. "They're not being asked to go through hoops, just to reveal what they're capable of," she says.

She notes the relationship between child and parent and the keenness of discipline. "If the child is banging the drawer of my desk, I let it go on for a bit to see what the parents will do. If they don't intervene, I will talk to them about what we expect of them. Do they want the type of disciplined environment we offer here or are they more the free expression type?"

Sushma Shah, the mother of pupil Anjali, confesses to feeling nervous during her daughter's test last May. Mrs Shah, who qualified as a dentist in Africa, had at the time just sat examinations to register in Britain.

"So I was feeling really stressed and my brain was analysing all that Anjali was doing. I explained that she didn't like colouring very much, but loved ballet and singing. They asked her to sing. I appreciated that they were looking at a different aspect of her. We're great believers in discipline so that paid off. She was willing to sit on Mrs Grant's lap and chattered away about going on the plane to India."

Mr Patel says of the testing system: "I've never seen anything like it. What do they expect from a 2½-year-old? If they take only the best children, they're bound to turn out the best."

Mrs Grant claims that the system is selective but not elitist. "People are too quick to put their own expectations on to their children." She says it is not biased in favour of middle-class parents, but against those who "don't always handle their children sensibly". Candidates for entrance at 11 are scrutinised as searchingly as the toddlers.

Forty-seven per cent of the girls are from ethnic minorities. "Some parents have two or three jobs and make sacrifices to send their children here. One market-stallholder says proudly: 'Look what my daughter has become.' We respect all parents equally."

Meanwhile, Ami's father is scrambling to find the right school. She is in a state school, but, with her sister, has been offered a place at a private school. "State schools are too slow," he says. He still thinks Ami's rejection was unfair.

"They didn't tell us where Ami fell down. If I have a third child, I'll have them holding a pencil at 18 months," he jokes. "No, of course I wouldn't force a child. They should have time to play. You can't bring those years back."

- Testing Times, *November 12, BBC2, 9pm*

BBC

Soraya, 3, takes a test where she is asked to pick out colours, to join the dots and to count

Of Englishness and innocence + Short long on pragmatism + Animated argument

A national heroine she ain't

Nigella Lawson

JUST imagine that it was the other way around for a moment. What if a foreign au pair working over here were found guilty of killing her baby charge, an infant Briton?

Somehow it's difficult to believe that the tabloid press would be quite so insistent on pushing the nanny-of-all-our-hearts line. Who, then, would be crying foul at a jury's decision to convict?

That isn't to miss the point. For, her family and friends (who have no obligation to be objective in such matters) apart, the general assumption seems to be that Louise Woodward's being British is guarantee enough of her innocence. To suggest otherwise — or moot that a jury that has heard many days' worth of evidence might be in a better position to judge the matter than those of us fed gobbets of information prepared for domestic consumption — would be downright unpatriotic.

I am not saying she's guilty. It seems to me, too, that there is insufficient evidence to make such an assumption, but if she really is innocent, it won't be because she's British. Nor does it follow that justice is done only when it's British justice. The banner headlines on Saturday's *Mirror* — "jailed by the system that freed OJ" — may be wonderfully emotive, and not entirely unfounded, but I would doubt that there are any more miscarriages of justice in US than in British courts.

There have been a mounting number of grumbling criticisms of the Prime Minister's refusal to get involved. Too right he won't. It would be the most terrible impertinence. Of course, we are obliged to presume people innocent — but only until they are found guilty. The one undeniable offence to justice seemed to me the "noose or loose" ruling, but that was chosen by Miss Woodward's own lawyers. That itself had to make a mockery of the jury's decision, because whether she killed Matthew Eappen or not, the one thing we can be sure of is that it wasn't a premeditated crime, so couldn't have been, in legal terms, murder. But she, or those defending her, took that gamble. They lost. Perhaps they'll win at appeal; at time of writing, it is undecided.

It is truly dreadful that a 19-year-old girl who, whatever she did do, never intended to kill anyone should be sent to jail for 15 years. I feel for her family. But a national heroine she ain't, or shouldn't be. For all that, I suspect that next there will be a public statement on her behalf by the Spice Girls. Then Innocent Louise's popular canonisation will be complete.

Children only want the facts

I'M NOT sure why it's on my bookshelves rather than his, but for some reason I am the custodian of the book which was my brother's favourite when he was a child. It's a slim thing titled, quite simply, *The Boys Book of Facts*. And that's what it is: page after page of all the facts that a boy was expected to have at his inkstained fingertips in the early Sixties.

More: they are the facts that every boy *wanted* to have to hand, the facts which not only gave him a sense of the world in which he lived (in those days, a world in which boys were the sole guardians of knowledge), but also were the standard currency of the playground. It was an age when some sort of status still accrued to the boy who knew the most world capitals or who could name Jupiter's moons.

No longer. These facts have no currency and narrative is all. Or, at least, not if you are in charge of the schedules for children's television where, according to the Broadcasting Standards Commission, factual programming has fallen to just 2 per cent of all children's viewing, including satellite and cable, and more than a third of that output comprises simple-minded animations of the *Scooby-Doo* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* variety.

The excuse for running bad adult television is that it's what the public wants: children's schedulers have no such excuse because children, generally speaking, have to take what they're given.

And the only reason they're given badly drawn, semi-animated American cartoons in which the plot is repeated episode after episode (has there *ever* been an episode of *Scooby-Doo* in which the masks weren't pulled from the heads of the fake ghosts in the last scene?) is because they are incredibly cheap to buy in. What other possible justification could there be for screening these trashy stories?

The tragedy is that the schedulers have convinced themselves that cartoons really are exclusively what children want. If they looked a little further when they went on their buying sprees in America they'd find that American schedulers have started to understand that children still have a fascination with facts — which is why Nickelodeon, the main children's cable and satellite channel and the producer of some of the more intelligent animations, has also started producing intelligent and entertaining children's shows full of boastable facts and figures.

They may be facts with American accents, but given the choice between them and the American accented *Scooby-Doo*, I know which I'd take.

And children, who don't make the distinction between education and entertainment in the lazy way we do, would fail even to see why they have to make the choice.

In Short, the Government's great asset

BEFORE the election, when the only thing Tony Blair was afraid of was being complacent, Clare Short was considered a liability. Honest to a fault and therefore politically dangerous — that was the general assumption. It's not a silly one to make: those who speak their minds do not generally make successful politicians.

But Short is turning out to be a fabulous exception to this rule. Far from being a liability, she is turning out to be one of the Government's greatest assets. When I've heard her recently, on the subject of disaster relief in Montserrat and, at the weekend, discussing foreign aid and Third World child labour, her qualities shone out. She won't be tripped up and she won't be embarrassed. Unlike many of us on the left, she is not anxious to sound nice-nice-nice. Being a good person, she doesn't have to strive to sound good. This in itself is a relief.

But most of all, she is eminently sensible: she knows the difference between what can be done and what ideally should be done, and concentrates on the former without losing sight of the latter. In Short, we have that rare thing, a radical pragmatist. I can't help wishing she were in charge of everything or, failing that, education. The children need her, schools need her, we need her. I don't wish to do down Mr Blunkett, but he could usefully be given that other albatross, health.

Blair always promised he would be more radical than anyone thought. The coming reshuffle, then, is his chance to prove and justify it in one.

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WHAT ELSE?

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My vision of an open Europe

George Soros prescribes a British cure for the EU

As an idea, European unity used to appeal to the hearts and minds of Europeans. But the reality is far less inspiring. What is the cause of this malaise? Can the European vision of the past 50 years be revitalised?

Europe's failures are often blamed on the fact that the union is an association of states, all tending to put their own interests ahead of the common weal. This is certainly true. But there is also a deeper, less obvious cause of *Europe's troubles.*

The EU is a rules-based government. This may sound like the rule of law, implying transparency and impartiality. In fact, the EU's rule-making process is anything but transparent. Decisions of the Council of Ministers are just like treaties: difficult to reach and difficult to alter. The rules that emerge are often too detailed, too rigid, and inappropriate to changing circumstances.

But the real problem lies in the idea that social, economic and political reality can be mastered by general norms. Life is too complex and changeable to be governed by fixed rules. The Maastricht treaty, for example, detailed the conditions to be met and timetable to be followed in introducing a single currency. Few foresaw then that Europe would suffer a prolonged period of high unemployment. Reducing government spending, as Maastricht demanded, is not the right policy in a *recession. Admittedly,* Europe's economies need to make structural adjustments, but emphasising reduced budget deficits probably prolonged the recession.

The flaws of Maastricht epitomise the belief that all problems can be managed if you enact enough rules. To have an independent central bank determining the common monetary policy and then have a *stable* pact that imposes rigid rules on fiscal policy deprives governments of the tools for macroeconomic management. What worries me most is that I don't see *mechanisms* for correcting error.

What unblinking commitment to governance by rules ignores is that our understanding is inherently imperfect: the perfect design for society is beyond our reach. We cannot devise a system to anticipate every contingency. We must content ourselves with the next best thing: a form of social organisation *which falls short of perfection* but is open to change and improvement. That is the idea of open society, and I would like to propose it as a new organising principle for the EU.

The bureaucratic view of the EU, embodied in the Maastricht treaty, is a Cartesian, rationalist construct. It shares the problems of Descartes's faith in the supremacy of reason. For 50 years, Brussels bureaucrats moved with precise, logical steps, limiting their goals, and setting firm timetables. When one goal was reached it became obvious that another step was needed. *Public support was then* mobilised. Step by step, the union progressed to become perhaps the greatest feat of social engineering in history.

The limits of this construction were reached with the Maastricht treaty. The rigidity inherent in the euro means that the common currency will have to be followed by a common fiscal policy, including a harmonisation of taxes on the earnings of capital. But such measures will be extremely unpopular. A common currency may end up destroying the European Union because its deficiencies *cannot be corrected simply by* taking another step forward.

It is time to change course. Since Descartes's time, we have had ample opportunity to discover that reason has its limitations. When I speak of Europe as an open society, I am thinking about coming to terms with our fallibility. Injecting a dose of British empiricism into Europe's Cartesian project could do the *Continent a lot of good.*

The idea of open society, with its commitment to freedom and social justice, can perhaps also give Europe a new sense of mission. During the Cold War, the presence of a common totalitarian enemy seemed to provide Europe with its moral purpose. But now that the communist menace has disappeared, the unity of the West is also disintegrating. The task before us is to re-energise Europe through an idea that inspires.

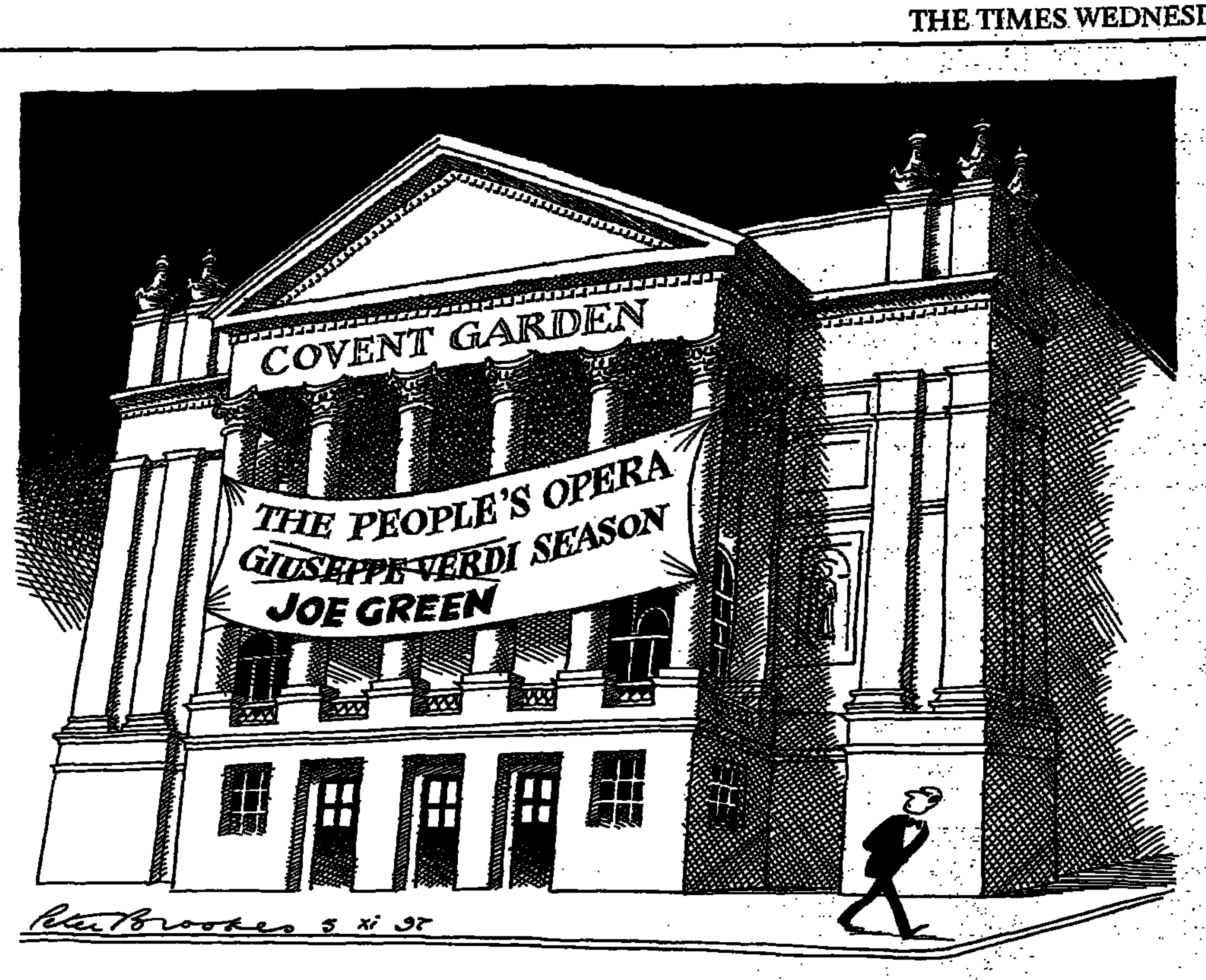
What would the EU look like as an open society? There would be a common market, *common currency,* and common fiscal policy, but also a government accountable to all its people. The federal European government can be acceptable only if it is combined with the notion of subsidiarity, necessary to accommodate the rich cultural and national heritage of the continent.

Safeguarded by a Bill of Rights and independent judiciary, Europe would be even more likely to succeed than the United States as a prototype of open society. Its diverse nationalities, cultures and traditions are not too far *removed from each other* to be compatible. There is a reasonable balance between the states that compromise it, although after reunification Germany has become a little too strong for comfort.

Establishing a common vision above petty interests is of particular importance in European defence. Security is no longer tied to the interests of individual countries, as the *Bosnian conflict* demonstrates. The war there did not impinge on the national interests of any one country. Nevertheless, the passivity of the rest of Europe may have inflicted more damage to the common interest than any other event in recent history. It was grievously mishandled because it was not treated as an open-society issue.

It is for the people of Europe *to decide exactly what kind of* Europe they want. The EU as it is fails to meet their needs and aspirations. But what is imperfect can be improved. This is what open society is all about.

The author is chairman of the Open Society Institute.



It's a real bullet, Tosca

Chris Smith's plans for London opera can only mean the death of ENO

Simon Jenkins

Nothing is sacred. The soft centre has not held and anarchy is loosed upon the West End. The Government intends that the Royal Opera and English National Opera *should cohabit.* They have blown too much money for too long to merit separate homes. The game is up. The fat lady has sung her last.

The Royal Opera at Covent Garden and the ENO at the Coliseum *have been the* Mutt and Jeff of British opera. They have been Marshall and Snelgrove, Cross & Blackwell, Little and Large for as long as we can remember. The one has been for the toffs, the other for plebs. Covent Garden sings foreign, the Coliseum English. Covent Garden is champagne and smoked salmon, the Coliseum cheap wine and sweaty dive-bars. We emerge from Covent Garden smugly uplifted, brushing gilt dust from our shoulder. The *Coliseum* hurls us out into St Martin's Lane like so much broiled offal.

Both are chantries of pre-Reformation public spending. I have enjoyed them too much not to shed a tear at their dissolution. Entertainers fool themselves when they think that the public goes to a theatre just to see their show. It also goes to experience a particular building. The rich go to Covent Garden to be seen at Covent Garden, to throng the Crush Bar, to enjoy the spirit of the place.

That is why audiences have collapsed now that the Royal Opera is using other London venues during rebuilding. The places are wrong. Does anyone think Glyndebourne *would survive for an unsubsidised* minute if relocated where picnics were impossible? Half the pleasure of the Coliseum was to sit under its vast cream and maroon auditorium, beneath prancing horses and naked breasts, while tier upon tier swayed to Bellini and Offenbach. Half the point was to be "not Covent Garden".

Both London opera companies are insolvent. Each has debts it cannot hope to pay back. The ENO is desperate, sitting on a £5 million *deficit and losing money despite* a £12 million subsidy. The Royal Opera is not just desperate, it is plunging into an abyss. It will lose £3 million this year and faces an accumulated deficit of £15 million on entering its new building in 1999. Years of mismanagement have come to this. London opera has hit a wall of pain.

Opera directors have long regarded *such crises* as completely normal. The procedure is to don sackcloth and ashes and demand money with menaces from the Arts Council, the Arts Minister and the Treasury. The great and good are invited to the Grand Tier. *There is murmuring* about centres of excellence, trickle-down and outreach. The jailer's knife raises over Florestan's neck. Suddenly the trumpet of salvation is heard offstage, the minister arrives and Fidelio's budget lives to sing another day. The metronome ticks off another million.

Yesterday something went badly wrong. Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, has taken *the opportunity* of Covent Garden's temporary closure to break the spell. Logic says that if two opera houses are both bankrupt, they had better become one. By sharing one building, with the Royal Ballet in the attic, a spare company can go touring the provinces. If the number hearing subsidised opera in London is to be halved, at least opera can be taken to people outside London. The Coliseum can be sold. The ENO must in future tell its middle-brow audience to visit its productions "at Covent Garden". *Those seeking a cheese sandwich* will find one in the basement of the Savoy.

Assuming the proposal goes ahead, the outcome is clear. The English National Opera company is being told to drink hemlock. Its team may survive awhile at the new Covent Garden, struggling to put together a "distinctive" English-speaking repertoire and taking it on tour. But surtitles have rendered this distinction obsolete. Audiences will be going "to Covent Garden", to see *particular operas, singers and productions.* There is no sense in giving one label to some productions, another to others. To pay for separate opera overheads in one building, not to mention a separate orchestra and chorus, would be indefensible. Cohabitation is a sop. The toffs have won.

The extravagance of the London opera *companies* is *legendary,* well-illustrated in the BBC documentary, *The House.* Money simply pours out of the door in mysterious payments, lavish designs and stupefying expenses. We have no idea how much grand opera would cost in Central London if subjected to normal project management. We do not know what we would get, or how much would be lost artistically, if either the Coliseum or Covent Garden tried operating at lower levels of unit cost. No one has dared test the question.

The same question was asked of Fleet Street newspapers in the 1970s. Conventional wisdom held that there was "only room" for *three or four titles* in London in future. Costs were fixed by union restrictive practices. The unions were happy to see the number of titles shrink, provided only that the incomes of their surviving members were maintained. Unions are never concerned with numbers employed, only with average incomes of those in work, a syndrome that wiped out London's docks. It took exceptionally tough action by newspaper proprietors in the mid-1980s to break this syndrome. As a result the number of titles stopped falling. Consumer *choice was preserved, profits rose* and cover prices fell.

Opera today is like Fleet Street yesterday. The entertainment business is *notorious* for restrictive practices, none more so than subsidised music. The absence of Covent Garden from the television, video or recording business, or from other forms of outreach, is shocking, given the size of its public subsidy. The unions forbid any reproduction of performances, except at prohibitive cost. *Management* and the Arts Council have acquiesced in this. Nobody knows how much money must have been lost as a result.

Instead of a competitive duopoly, we are to have a comfortable monopoly. Two companies that might have deserved a sentence of penal servitude have had a more drastic sentence passed on them. One is to be executed as a warning to the other. Government has lost patience. London opera is to be taken into care. It is to be nationalised. The Arts Council, always a mere pawn in Covent Garden's fist, has been swept *aside. Whitehall will now expect to* fund and direct the new Covent Garden building.

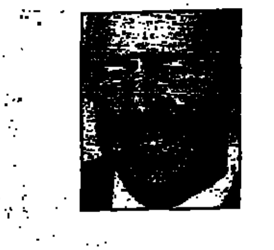
This is good news for the Royal Opera. Institutions which government funds get away with financial *murder,* be they *prisons,* hospitals, navies or royal palaces. Covent Garden may be able to seize part of the ENO grant to save it from bankruptcy — before the Treasury gets wise to the fact that its grant to London opera should now be halved. The Royal Opera should receive not a penny until that company gets its unions in order and ends restrictive practices *on* broadcasting. The ENO orchestra and chorus must go and Covent Garden's own musicians and *singers put on personal contracts.*

This is seriously radical. The Government has tasted blood. The message to other rogue elephants in London's arts jungle is awesome. The Royal Shakespeare and Royal National theatres are also competing with each other (and the private sector) at the taxpayer's expense. The logic of the Coliseum decision is that the RSC should sell the Barbican and merge with the RNT on the South Bank. Again, Mr Smith is subsidising five symphony orchestras in London (plus the two operas), all competing for a dwindling market of audiences. There must be scope for cohabitation here. *The South Bank board and its* Festival Hall draw a bigger subsidy than the Coliseum, yet compete with the Albert Hall, the Wigmore Hall and the Barbican Hall. This looks like madness.

These are questions decent people have not been expected to ask. Decent people put their shoulder to the wheel and lobby like hell. They keep their heads down when the muck starts to fly, cut a deal with Whitehall behind the woodshed and sneak away with *their perks and gongs.*

That script has been ripped apart. London's cultural institutions, used to years of effortless equilibrium, have gone unstable. Grants are being cut. Boards are in turmoil. Budgets are flying everywhere. And already the Treasury Scarpias are avenged. It was a real bullet, Tosca. The Coliseum is dead.

Alan Coren



■ And lo, quick as a flash, there came miracles on the road

Up until last Monday morning, I had little in common with St Paul. The little was that I had also *travelled the road to Damascus,* but as nothing untoward happened in the way of flashing lights, visions, or miracles, you will I'm sure agree that things in common do not come much littler. But last Monday morning, they suddenly came much bigger. They came much bigger on the road to Cricklewood, where something untoward did happen in the way of flashing lights, visions and miracles.

Literally untoward, at that: which is to say that the flashing light appeared, in my rear-view mirror, a nano-second after I had driven past it in an untoward direction. It had not been a flashing light when I had approached it in a toward direction, it had been a grey box on a stick; it became a flashing light only after I had passed it, because I had passed it too quickly, and it wanted a snapshot of my departing number plate. This, of course, instantly became the first vision, as the number slowly materialised in Old Bill's developing fluid, only to be nudged aside by the second *vision, a ratty letter inviting me* either to submit my licence for defacement on a charge of belting down the A41 like a madman, or, in the event of my actually being a madman, to try to weasel my way out of it in court with a brilliantly argued defence packing the juridical wallop of a load of old cod, which would bring the beak tumbling from his bench and rolling around helplessly on the courtroom parquet until such time as he managed to struggle to his feet, wipe his eyes, and announce that he was throwing the key away.

That being the third vision. *There was, however, a fourth* — as how could there not be, given that most of the rural weekend from which I was now speeding home had been given over to heated gabbling about whether justice needed not only to be done, but to be televised to be done? I shan't elaborate, all your own weekends will have been spent jawing the selfsame issue to tatters. I wish merely to offer my vision of that inevitable day when, thanks to the exponential proliferation of TV channels and the dearth of anything to put on them, dozens will offer the daily doings of courts throughout the queendom. Will *this* affect justice? Who can say, *but* look, there is an old wag in the dock accused of speeding, he has retained Cherie Booth, George Carman and John Thaw, who, after six weeks, have triumphantly argued the selection of a jury of 12 old wags who own fast cars; and see, the queue of expert witnesses stretches around the block, each clutching a wad of money in one fist and, in the other, testimony written by a *panel of Oscared* scriptwriters which they will soon deliver to piped music composed for the occasion by Harrison Birtwistle.

Might, then, the old wag get off with only a wigging? Almost certainly (and if so, he will subsequently appeal successfully against the wigging on the grounds that it upset one of his grandchildren), but if the jury does accidentally find him guilty, the verdict is bound to be *set aside following* Dale Winton's tearful request to camera that viewers now ring one of two Freefone numbers, bearing in mind, as they dial, that the old wag *not* only has a hacking cough but also gives huge sums to Save the Children.

Now, there might have been even more to this last vision had it not suddenly been interrupted, a *couple of miles from home,* by the miracle. Another flashing light had appeared in my mirror, blue this time. I pulled over, thinking: blimey, they're quick, they have found a place that does ten-minute processing, so I got out of the car and was preparing to scan the moist snapshot, fakely aghast, when the policeman who had got out of his said: "You realise you're committing an offence, sir?"

The present tense. Strange: I had, of course, been driving impeccably since the initial flash. I shook my head. He beckoned me to the rear of my car, and pointed. I stared. I may have reeled. Because, the night before, I, along with all the other weekend guests, had parked in the muddy, rutted field outside our host's farmhouse.

"It is illegal," he said, "to drive with an illegible registration plate."

I took a cloth from the boot, and wiped it clean. "Thank you," I said.

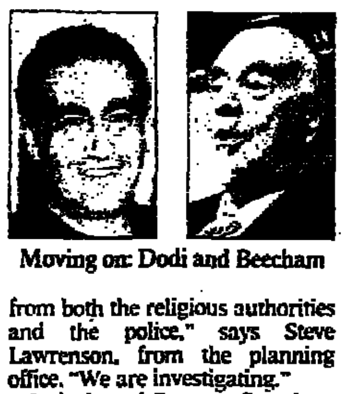
Thank you, God.

Grave concern

THE cemetery where Dodi Fayed's body was interred is being investigated by the local council amid suggestions of neglect by its owner. Brookwood cemetery in Surrey, the largest in Britain, gained international attention when the friend of Diana, Princess of Wales, was buried there within 24 hours of his death in Paris. But his father, Mohamed Al Fayed, caused surprise by moving the body to his nearby Oxted estate. The cemetery's owner, Ramadan Guney, is controversial. The widow of Sir Thomas Beecham, *the conductor, exhumed her* husband's body in 1991 after seeing the shoddy state of his grave. The council responded by forcing Guney to "take remedial action".

Some locals remain unhappy. "I have seen him clear large areas and re-sell the plots to different people," says Dorothy Richards, who was brought up by the cemetery (her father worked on the 450-acre site) and has lived in a house there since. "Dodi's plot was in one of these newly-cleared areas." Al Fayed selected Dodi's plot — a privilege for which Mr Guney charges extra. Mrs Richards continues: "Everything is in a terrible state. The grave of an old cemetery manager, George Lambert, who only died a few years ago, lies broken under an old fireplace and television set."

Such allegations are being taken seriously by Surrey County Council. "There has been a lot of concern from both the religious authorities and the police," says Steve Lawrenson, from the planning office. "We are investigating."



Moving on: Dodi and Beecham

I telephoned Guney to float these points past him but he was "on business" in Cyprus. His associates would not be drawn.

● *LOCAL takeaways in Herts have failed to impress the American actors, Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, while on location: they order feed from London's trendy Nobu (average cost with delivery: £300). "Their driver comes to collect or we send it in a taxi," says a kitchen voice. "They're particularly fond of sahimi."*

THE TIMES DIARY

Vintage whine

IT IS the ultimate club for losers. After the Tories implosion last May, the Exiles was formed for casualties to dine, and occasionally whine. Recently the club's Phillip Oppenheim (formerly a dashing MP) organised a wake at the Savile Club. One of the cheeriest diners was Sir Jeremy Hanley, handing out *business* cards. "There's life outside politics," chirped the former party chairman. "There may be one or two who could do with some work, but most of them could not be busier."

"We all got round one table," says David Shaw, who represented the good people of Dover before they turned on him. "Mind you, it was quite a large table."

● *WILLIAM HAGUE and Ffion Jenkins should grow accustomed to married life while honeymooning next month in a £380-a-night hotel suite in India. The room boasts its own "love swing".*

Sold at last

TALES of the Princess of Wales washing-up in his kitchen have done little to raise the value of The Shieling, the Devonshire cottage of James Hewitt. After languishing on the market for two years it has been flogged for rather less than its asking price.

The cottage — a twee little thing with oak beams and thatched roof — was offered at £170,000 but has now gone for around £155,000. "It's a sensible price. The Princess's visits had no impact on the value," says the estate agent. The windfall will *come in handy to Hewitt,* who has upgraded to a nearby mansion on the proceeds of Anna Pasternak's book, *Princess in Love.* His new pad could do with an MoT.

"I see the Tories have changed their name"

● *BRIAN IDDON, MP, will mark the day by bringing gunpowder into Parliament — the first time since Guy Fawkes. A former science lecturer, he wants to publicise the importance of chemistry. Does the Serjeant at Arms know?*

Late news

GROCERS, Princess Margaret has learnt rather late in life, like their supper on time. Saturday found Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover celebrating his 70th birthday with 350 close chums at the National Gallery. They had gathered around eight for a four-course feast in the Sainsbury Wing, galleries for which their host, with customary generosity, shelled out £30 million.

At last . . . Princess Margaret

There was only one thing missing: the guest of honour, Princess Margaret, without whom dinner could not be served. Half past eight struck; nine o'clock passed, and still she did not show. Eventually, at quarter past nine, she turned up. "We were starving," says an impatient diner. "The delay could have wreaked havoc with the sorbet."

JASPER GERARD

THE GOOD EMUSCEPTICS

Which side really wants the best for Europe?

The Government has a new mission: to rid the country of Euroscepticism. The Labour/Liberal Democrat cabinet committee yesterday discussed how this battle was to be fought. By the evening, Gordon Brown had launched the first missile, in the *Spectator*/Allied Dunbar lecture. After a thoughtful and acute analysis of the historical roots of Britishness, the Chancellor went on to damn the notion that being pro-British should be equated with being anti-Europe.

Mr Brown is right to draw attention to Britain's outward-looking traditions. Though an island, this country has never been insular. Rather, its surrounding seas have provoked a national urge to explore, to trade and even, in the past, to conquer. Britain's foreign policy has always been one of engagement rather than isolationism, and of ensuring a balance of power in Europe.

The Chancellor's analysis of the post-Cold War era is also instructive. When the Soviet Union was Communist, Britain's instincts were closer to those of America than to those of anti-Nato France or pacifist West Germany. But these days there is no tension between being Atlanticist and pro-European. Indeed, Britain's influence with Washington is enhanced by its influence in Europe and vice versa.

Where Mr Brown and his Labour and Lib Dem friends are on weaker ground is in equating Euroscepticism with anti-Europeanism. There is, and will always be, a vociferous but small section of the population and political classes that wants nothing to do with Europe. These people voted "no" in the 1975 referendum and would vote "no" again given the chance. They are, on the whole, suspicious of foreigners and happy to be called "little Englanders".

But there is another, more numerous, group of people who believe that Britain's future lies in Europe, but are unhappy with the way in which the European Union has developed. These people, many of whom are younger and more "modern" than Mr Brown, are sceptical not of Europe per se, but of a particular design for Europe which seems old-fashioned, rigid, cumbersome and antithetical to the interests not just of Britain but of continental countries too.

This Eurosceptic strand is not xenophobic but internationalist. It wants Europe to be able to compete with the markets of the Far East, not to retreat into an inward-looking and declining, possibly protectionist, club. This is a more up-to-date vision than the Mitterrand/Kohl one of heavy-handed integration and regulation. It sees Europe's future as being based on flexibility not rigidity. The EU needs to be light on its feet — with not one interest rate and exchange rate for all but the ability to be responsive to individual countries' economic circumstances so as to maximise growth and prosperity.

Moreover, these modern Eurosceptics fear that the very danger that political and economic integration was designed to prevent — that of the rise of nationalism — may instead be enhanced by EMU. If high levels of unemployment are caused in the poorer countries by a one-size-fits-all interest rate, and if national politicians find themselves impotent to remedy it, far-right anti-democratic parties will reap the rewards. If taxpayers in richer countries are then expected forever to pay huge subsidies to poorer ones, xenophobia will take hold.

These Eurosceptics are often lumped together with anti-Europeans. Crude, xenophobic, old-fashioned slogans based on the presence of the Queen's head on the banknote obscure the far more cogent and intellectually respectable arguments of modern Euroscepticism. These are views to which Mr Brown and his colleagues should listen with respect, not begin a mission to destroy.

EUROPE'S HIGHWAYMEN

Blair should demand guards for convoys through France

France's lorry drivers have a right to withdraw their labour; that is a matter between them and their employers, with whom they have some genuine grievances to pursue. They can have no right deliberately to deprive other people of work and ruin farmers and industries throughout Europe. Their blockade of France is not strike action, but a war of economic sabotage. It is totally illegal, recklessly irresponsible and inflicts grave economic damage both on France and on its trading partners.

It is also supported by a majority of their compatriots. There is a curious symbiosis between French voters and their *routiers* which paralyses French governments almost as effectively as the drivers are once again choking Europe's arteries. A year ago, the centre-right Juppé Government tried to ignore Operation Escargot, only to intervene in the end with promises of public money to help finance a settlement. The Socialist Opposition lined the barricades then, jeering and cheering. Those who ring the bells for illegality are justly condemned one day to wring their hands; but faced with a repeat performance, that is about all that the Socialists, now in government, are doing.

Like M Juppé before him, the French Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, claims that the Government is "neutral". Since this is a private-sector dispute, such a hands-off approach would be both technically correct and, for French Socialists, surprisingly "new Labour". But the true picture is different. Ministers are stuck in this dispute up to the hilt. What M Jospin really means is that his Government dares not tackle what ineluctibly does fall within the domain of the State; that is the responsibility to enforce the law, including the dismantling of roadblocks, so that others can go about their lawful business.

This is the point at which France's obligations transcend its frontiers. Because the country straddles the European Union's trade routes, it has a clear obligation under the EU's single market not to obstruct the free movement of goods and people. The French Government implicitly recognised that last year, when it promised to pay compensation to foreign lorry drivers who found themselves stranded — although not to foreign farmers and industries which had suffered grave damage to their businesses. Most of that money has never been paid.

The French Transport Ministry claims that travel corridors through France could not be policed. It adds, tellingly, that such action would "upset the strikers". There may be genuine difficulties in ordering the police to act, because many of them belong to the same Force Ouvrière union as the lorry drivers. But there is nothing to prevent the French military running guarded convoys through France. That would not solve France's domestic problem; but it would at least show good faith about meeting its obligations to its EU partners.

British, German and Spanish businesses stand to lose more than £600 million a week as a direct result of the chaos in France. Spanish farmers, who normally export 8,000 tonnes of highly perishable fruit and vegetables in the month of November, are particularly hard hit. Tomorrow, when President Chirac and M Jospin arrive in London for an Anglo-French summit, Tony Blair must demand guarded convoys as an absolute minimum short-term measure. He should also say that Britain will present a full bill for damages, and will insist that the European Commission takes France to court for breaching the Single European Act.

External pressure should not be required. M Jospin knows that if this confrontation drags on, the damage to France's economic growth will upset his strategy for monetary union. The long-term solution must lie in curbing France's small but highly politicised unions. But that is something which no post-war French Government has nerved itself to do. France thinks of itself as the true heart of Europe; it badly needs bypass surgery.

CIRCLING THE SQUARE

Trafalgar Square can be a traffic-free model for other cities

The city square is at the heart of traditional urban life, a place for citizens to stroll and mingle, to idle and admire. For the tourist, London is one of the most attractive capitals in Europe. Its theatres and restaurants, museums and parks are enjoyed by millions of visitors each year. Yet the historical hub of the city, Trafalgar Square and its environs, is snarled with traffic. It has become an inhospitable, offensive place. Pedestrians huddle on narrow pavements or stand marooned on polluted islands.

Today Westminster City Council launches a three-day public consultation on ways to improve matters. Sir Norman Foster, working in partnership with a host of transport consultants, urban planners and landscape designers, has come up with two principal strategies for the area around Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and the Houses of Parliament. In a free exhibition at the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall, the public is invited to view these plans and make recommendations.

Traffic is the biggest single challenge. Londoners instinctively deplore the congestion which pedestrian areas produce. Road closure in one place has an inevitable effect on adjacent streets. Certain measures can be taken to redress this: ring roads can discourage through-traffic from entering the city; deliveries can be limited to off-peak hours. But, if World Squares For All is to mark the beginning of a better urban environment for central London, the habits of motorists will have to change too. The Government will need to invest heavily in improved public transport.

Another challenge is to prevent newly pedestrianised areas developing into ill-kempt haunts of vagrants. This depends critically on the environment and its attractions. Trashy souvenir stands, aggressive beggars, amusement arcades and fast-food chains could quickly recreate the squalor of Leicester Square. High standards in street furniture should be demanded. Simplicity of design will concentrate the eye on the many Grade I listed buildings in the area, as well as making it easier to police.

London has already created successful pedestrian areas. In Covent Garden, citizens and tourists mingle in the cafés and shops of the Piazza. But Trafalgar Square will be an even greater test. If its problems can be imaginatively solved, it will serve as a model for other cities. Londoners should take the trouble to visit the exhibition and make their comments. But they would be advised to leave their cars behind.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Case for joining the single currency is 'seriously flawed'

From Sir Michael Edwardes

Sir, Michael Heseltine and his splinter group have every right to argue their case ("Old men forget", leading article, October 31), even though it is seriously flawed. Those of us who believe that it is not in Britain's economic interests to join the single currency welcome a full debate, for this is the only way that the downside will become apparent.

Proponents of joining a single currency have avoided a number of issues which might now emerge. For example, Germany, France and Italy have massive unfunded pension commitments running into billions of marks, francs, lira and euros. This liability for the future, exacerbated by an ageing population, is often ignored.

If we join EMU, we will over time inherit the European socio-industrial cost base. For every £100 of wages in Britain, our non-wage labour cost is a reasonable £18. Germany's on-cost is no less then £32, and in France and Italy it is substantially higher. Given that only 25 per cent of our world trade is with the core EU countries, how are we to compete with and in the Americas, the Far East, the Commonwealth and Britain itself?

If we hand over the levers of economic power to a Central Bank in Frankfurt, the unemployment problem will require to be solved by job mobility: how is this to be dealt with in twelve languages? How, too, will we handle the convergence issue? Britain's global trading interests create an economic cycle which is seldom convergent with continental Europe, and even if convergence is achieved at a point in time, this is like the flash of a camera; the economic cycle moves inexorably onwards. At the present time we are diverging further, as indeed we have been since we joined the Common Market in 1972: give away our control of interest rates, inflation and economic growth, and the variable becomes unemployment with all its stresses and strains.

There are no good reasons for joining the single currency and do not let Mr Heseltine's splinter group persuade you that "business is in favour". The pressure for joining does not come from the bulk of the business community, but from a small group of multinationals which have had their own agenda and disproportionate influence within the CBI.

Yours truly,
MICHAEL EDWARDES
(Chairman,
Chloride Group, 1969-77 and 1986;
British Leyland, 1977-82; ICL, 1984;
Dunlop, 1984-85; Charter, 1988-96),
15 Woodfall Street, Chelsea, SW3.
November 3.

From Mrs Gillian Bardinet

Sir, British preoccupation with the economic and business implications of a single currency is perfectly logical, but far removed from the mood in France, where the words "act of faith" can be heard to describe the forthcoming great leap.

Indeed, the whole concept of EMU was conceived less as an economic target per se than as an indispensable springboard to political union, as two founding fathers, Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt, have pointed out in a jointly written article published in the *International Herald Tribune* (October 14).

Yours sincerely,
GILLIAN BARDINET
(Maître de Conférences,
Institute of Political Studies, Paris),
21 Rue Saint-Honoré,
78000 Versailles.
November 3.

From Mr David Clarke

Sir, Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, as the two leading ministers of the last Conservative Government, bear a large responsibility for the worst electoral defeat the Tory party has had in a hundred years. As you rightly suggest in your leading article of October 31, one would have thought then they would have had the decency to keep quiet for a while.

They were wrong on so many major issues, ranging from lack of support for Margaret Thatcher to their eagerness to join the ERM. Why should the country listen to them now? They are yesterday's men — thank goodness.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CLARKE,
Woodlands,
Marsham Lane,
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.
November 1.

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, The Heseltine/Clarke citing of the CBI and TUC as allies in advocating swift progress to monetary union cuts little ice with Aims of Industry. We were against both organisations when we campaigned for bringing trade unions within the law.

It is not true that all the big firms support EMU. Many don't. And the majority of small firms fear the impact of a single currency on their business.

The supporters of EMU are working hard to indicate its virtues — of which there are a few. The public also need to know of the dangers — of which there are many.

We should be aware of the dangers, not only to the UK but also to the European countries which rush to join.

Yours,
MICHAEL IVENS
(Consultant, Aims of Industry),
2 Mulgrave Road, NW10.
October 31.

From Mr Michael Thompson

Sir, One can derive a certain wry amusement from the stated aim of the newly "bonded" Conservatives to defend the pound.

It can only be hoped that they will prove more effective than their recent long governance might suggest, the current value of the pound being approximately three and a half packets of crisps.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL THOMPSON,
Hawthorne Hill,
Whitmore, Staffordshire.
November 1.

Compassion for the unborn child

From the Reverend Iver Martin

Sir, Professor James Drife (letter, October 29) suggests that the Church believes those involved in abortion at first hand to be demons. He further suggests that the Church is more concerned to preach at pregnant women and then leave them to risk death rather than help them. This is both untrue and unfair.

Furthermore, the focus of his attention is placed upon the pregnant woman, but the human life in her womb is ignored. He refers to the 30 women who annually died as a result of septic abortion in the 1960s, but makes no reference to the almost 5 million children who have since died as a result of legal abortion.

Professor Drife appears to justify abortion on the basis that most of the one in four women under 25 having abortion for the first time will never seek another one. But what if a similar statistic existed with respect to those who have murdered for the first time? Would that make murder any less wrong?

Finally, Professor Drife accuses the clergy of regarding women as objects of debate. Any Church that follows the example of Christ will treat people with the same compassion that he demonstrated, and that includes women coming to terms with the guilt and trauma of abortion. But the Church also has a duty to tell the whole truth. It must cry aloud in defence of the innocent unborn and protest to both government and public, and plead with them finally to bring an end to this horror.

Yours faithfully,
IVER MARTIN
(Minister, Bon Accord Free Church),
77 Forest Avenue, Aberdeen.
October 30.

From Monsignor Vincent Turnbull

Sir, Cardinal Basil Hume (report, October 27) is a deeply sensitive and compassionate man. To suggest otherwise is to do him a grave injustice.

Cardinals, bishops and priests do indeed know from experience that "ethical issues often become less simple when one understands all the facts", to quote Professor Drife. The professor, however, misses an essential point when he [illegible] hn viii, 11. Jesus, out of compassion, refused to condemn the adulterous woman, as the Pharisees sought. But crucially he did not condone her wrongdoing; his words "go and sin no more" make that clear.

Abortion is wrong in principle because it is the destruction of an innocent human life. No amount of compassion can alter that fundamental principle. It is unacceptable to do what is wrong in order that good, no matter how great, may come of it. To think otherwise is a recipe for moral chaos and confusion, which is what we have in the abortion scene today.

Professor Drife must surely know that risk of death or of septic abortion is not the reality in the vast majority of abortion situations today. Where is his compassion for the unborn child?

Yours sincerely,
VINCENT TURNBULL
(Parish priest),
St Catherine's Church,
Birkenhead Road,
Hoylake, Wirral, Merseyside.
October 30.

Press freedom

From the Executive Chairman of News International

Sir, May I take rare advantage of this column by adding support for your leader today about the dangers to press freedom from some aspects of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The Lord Chancellor's statement that press freedom will be in "the safe hands of British judges" is not reassuring. British judges have a history of idiosyncratic behaviour in their media decisions and many of them famously admit to being out of touch with popular culture. Yet it will be judges who must identify the public interest for all strata of society. Judges will decide what we may or may not read, listen to or view, and their decisions will be based on their own, often narrow and out of date experiences.

Privacy in this country is protected by various statutes, by the Press Complaints Commission and the Broadcasting Standards Council. This combination can and does evolve to mirror public feeling and the judges should be told that Britain does not require a common law right to privacy and that the courts must uphold freedom of expression.

Yours etc,
LESLIE HINTON,
Executive Chairman,
News International plc,
1 Virginia Street, E1.
November 4.

Wheels under fire

From Mr Matt Wenham

Sir, Professor Emeritus Felix Weinberg (letter, November 3) is quite correct when he states that the top of a bicycle wheel must travel forward at twice the speed of the bike. However, since the tyre is horizontal at the top its radar signature will be very small.

Even accounting for reflections from the spokes at the top of the wheel and the forward travelling foot and pedal, it is highly likely that the remainder of the cycle and the rider would account for the majority of the vehicle's radar signature.

Therefore, speed measurements of bicycles made with radar guns are likely to be as accurate as for any other vehicle.

Yours faithfully,
MATT WENHAM
(Physics graduate),
2 Lauriston Place, Cambridge.
mattw@earthling.net

Care of countryside

From Mr K. A. McDougall

Sir, Sir Chris Bonington and others (letter, October 30) continue to feel aggrieved and threatened by any extension of military training in the UK.

My experience is that military training areas are havens for wildlife which quickly adapts to the crumps and bangs and prefers these to the remorseless tramp of ramblers.

Are we talking about access or biodiversity?

Yours faithfully,
K. A. McDOUGALL,
Hill House, Bridge Street,
Stiffkey, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk.
October 30.

Whaling dispute

From the Conservation Director of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society

Sir, Contrary to your report of October 24, headed "Indian tribe is allowed to kill whales again", we cannot agree that the International Whaling Commission has given the Makah Indians of Washington State permission to kill grey whales.

As the Australian delegation made clear in a statement issued after the IWC meeting at which the matter was discussed, most of the delegations to the Monaco conference were opposed to such a step.

The only people authorised by the IWC to kill grey whales are those "whose traditional aboriginal subsistence and cultural needs have been recognised". The Makah Indians, who have not hunted whales for over 70 years and are not dependent on whale meat and other whale products for their survival, do not fall into that category.

If the Makah Indians go ahead and kill grey whales, despite the failure of the US delegation to secure authorisation from the IWC to do so, this will be interpreted by most of the IWC member nations as commercial whaling, which is not allowed under an existing IWC ban.

The US will be deemed by them to be whaling illegally, in defiance of the ban and of overwhelming public opinion.

Yours faithfully,
ALISON SMITH,
Conservation Director,
Whale and Dolphin
Conservation Society,
Alexander House,
James Street West, Bath.
October 24.

Life force

From Professor Rhys Williams

Sir, The Reverend Philip White (letter, October 29) is certainly correct that 100 per cent of us die, whether we are churchgoers or not.

However, this 100 per cent is not a death *rate*: it is a proportion. A rate refers to the frequency with which things happen (like a heart rate — the frequency with which a heart beats per minute).

A death rate is, therefore, the frequency with which deaths occur in a given population, not the proportion of people in that population who will die. The observation that the death rate of churchgoers is "significantly lower than average" is not a consequence of a lower proportion of them being mortal but of the fact that their mortal natures "put on immortality" at a lower rate than expected.

In other words, that individuals in this population live, on average, longer than would be expected.

I hope this explanation is clear and that you do not consider it too stuffy and boring.

Yours sincerely,
RHYS WILLIAMS
(Professor of Epidemiology
and Public Heath),
Nuffield Institute for Health,
71-75 Clarendon Road,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.
November 1.

Prayers and pints

From Mr Richard Starkey and Mrs Lesleyanne Bowness

Sir, In 1641 Henry Ewer gave a yearly rent charge of ten shillings (50p) on a house on the present site of The Black Horse pub, South Mimms, for the vicar to preach a Good Friday sermon (letters, October 22, November 1).

On the evening of Good Friday 1936, the Reverend Hey, realising that most of his congregation were in The Black Horse, proceeded down the hill to carry out the full act of worship in the saloon bar.

This practice is still carried out, the vicar ringing time on "service" at the bar and replacing it by a "service" of a more ecclesiastical nature. We still pay the ten shillings to the church, although time has somewhat devalued it, and computerisation has made it necessary to raise a cheque for one pound every two years.

The congregation and regulars are concerned about the 1998 service, as our vicar has moved on to pastures new and we are without a regular cleric. However, we are sure that by then God will provide.

Yours faithfully,
R. STARKEY,
L. BOWNESS (licensees),
The Black Horse,
South Mimms, Hertfordshire.
blackhsm@aol.com
November 3.

Common sacrifice

From Mr Stewart Rigby

Sir, You report today that the Royal British Legion could not understand why homosexual groups should wish to observe their own commemoration as they did at the Cenotaph yesterday. Apparently this was "an offence".

In that case could the Legion please explain why they have no difficulty with Jewish and other "minority groups" mounting their own, equally separate, commemorations?

Can't they simply accept the diversity of mankind and the shared wish to honour, albeit in different ways, the common sacrifice of those who fought for their country?

Yours sincerely,
STEWART RIGBY,
13 Boyne Road, SE13.
November 3.

I bank, therefore . . .

From Mrs Irene Draper

Sir, I have recently received from an insurance company a request for me to have authorised a "certificate of existence". They kindly suggest that I apply to my bank branch, or to my local post office.

Since I buy my stamps at the newsagent and have loyally stuck to my Aberdeen bank, now 500 miles away — I usually get my money from a hole in the wall — I am in a quandary.

Yours faithfully,
IRENE DRAPER,
Maynestay, Catbrook,
Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Language 'tsar'

From Mr Michael Heaney

Sir, Mr Peter Hall (letter, October 31) asks for an appropriate English word to convey adequately the status or function of the holder of the important office of "language tsar". I believe the word he seeks is "pedant".

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HEANEY,
5 Hanborough Close,
Eynsham, Witney, Oxfordshire.
michael.heaney@ulib.ox.ac.uk
October 31.

From Mr Sohail Rasul

Sir, Surely the only expression which would evoke the same sense of absolute power and authority today would be "language minister without portfolio".

Yours faithfully,
S. RASUL,
58 Westbury Road,
New Malden, Surrey.

From Mr Gerald Moggridge

Sir, How about "bossyboots"?

Yours faithfully,
GERALD MOGGRIDGE,
29 Rossdale, Sutton, Surrey.

From Mrs Adele Kitrick

Sir, Mr Peter Hall is right to deplore the use of the word "tsar".

As someone once said, there is no need to borrow foreign words, English will always provide the *mot juste*.

Yours faithfully,
A. A. KITRICK,
26 Warwick Road,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

From Mr Geoffrey Payne

Sir, Why not have a language Pope, since infallibility is likely to come into it.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY PAYNE,
4 Hales Place, Dresden,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.
November 1.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 4: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Earl of Airlie KT (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of Her Majesty and presented an Address from the House of Lords to which The Queen was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Rt Hon Tony Blair MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, today attended the Sixth International Award Forum of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association in Wellington, New Zealand.

Lady Dugdale has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

November 4: The Prince Edward, Trustee and Chairman of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, continued his visit to Wellington, New Zealand, for the Sixth International Award Forum.

His Royal Highness today attended the Forum in the Michael Fowler Centre.

Later this afternoon The Prince Edward visited the St James Theatre to review the renovation.

His Royal Highness this evening attended the Forum Reception and Dinner in the Michael Fowler Centre.

November 4: The Princess Royal, Patron, the Butler Trust, this morning visited Her Majesty's Prison Perth, Edinburgh Road, Perth, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross (Sir David Montgomery Bt).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, SENSE — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, this afternoon opened the residential home and visited offices at Temple Lane, Westport, Dundee, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Dundee (Mr Mervyn Rolfe, the Lord Provost).

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 4: Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox has succeeded Miss Jane Walker-Okeover as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 4: The Prince of Wales flew to Cape Town this morning and was received by the Premier of the Western Cape (Mr Hernus Krier).

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited a community policing project in Nyanga township.

The Prince of Wales later visited the Tsoga township environmental project.

His Royal Highness afterwards officially opened the British Council offices in Cape Town and met British Council staff and Chevening Scholars.

The Prince of Wales subsequently received Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi (South African Minister of Home Affairs).

His Royal Highness later visited Stellenberg Farmstead.

The Prince of Wales this evening attended a State Dinner given by President Mandela at the Tuynhuys.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 4: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this afternoon attended the Society's Home Counties Region Luncheon at Cliveden in aid of the Regional Investigation Unit and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire (Sir Nigel Mobbs).

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 4: The Duke of Gloucester this morning opened the Resource Centre, Derby University, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire (Mr John Bather).

His Royal Highness later opened the new Derby Independent Grammar School for Boys.

The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, the Order of St John, this afternoon visited the St John Ambulance Headquarters, Chesterfield.

His Royal Highness afterwards visited Ash Green Specialist Learning Disability Service Centre, Chesterfield.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the London Playing Fields Society, this evening attended a Dinner to mark twenty one years at Patron of the Society at the Savoy Hotel, London WC2.

YORK HOUSE
November 4: The Duke of Kent, President of the Council, King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, this morning presided over a council meeting at Beaumont Street, London W1.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as president, Save the Children Fund, will attend Christmas in November, Littlewood Park, Alford, Aberdeenshire, at 12.30; as president, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will visit Harley & Co (Peterhead), 44 Queen Street, Peterhead, at 2.45; and will visit their shop at 252a Union Street, at 4.25. Later, she will attend a Reel Party, Elphinstone Hall, Aberdeen University, at 8.00.

Princess Margaret will attend an auction to mark the 25th anniversary of the Dyslexia Institute, Christie's, King Street, SW1, at 8.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as patron, Counsel and Care (Advice and Help for Older People), will attend a luncheon at the House of Lords, at 12.45.

The Duke of Kent, as vice-chairman, British Overseas Trade Board, will visit Rover Group, Cowley, at 10.30; will visit the Medawar Centre, Oxford, 1.40; and Sharp Laboratories of Europe, Oxford Science Park, Littlemore, Oxford, at 2.15.

Memorial service

The Hon Anna Plowden

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Anna Plowden, restorer and conservationist, was held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves officiated. Mr Kevin Smith, Ms Carole Milner and Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC, gave addresses.

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prize-winners were announced yesterday:

£100,000: 10AB 729031, winner has a holding of £3,620 and comes from Surrey; 69FW 949481, £12,152, Essex; 20LL 020541, £19,985, Merseyside; 48BF 021650, £20,000, Devon; 19QT 985518, £10,000, Lincolnshire; 13AW 357610, £17,080, Merseyside.

£50,000: 39GP 913466, £18,700, Berkshire; 12ST 855042, £11,120, Staffordshire; 68HL 349382, £3,350, Essex; 57NW 128054, £10,000, Hertfordshire; 36RB 803393, £1,025, Tyne & Wear; 93DT 206280, £10,000, Surrey; 27NK 001301, £20,000, Essex; 62FP 484978, £5,103, Nottinghamshire; 45VS 668444, £101, Oxfordshire; 40DZ 623327, £20,000, West Midlands.

£25,000: 19DK 009187, £20,000, Tyne & Wear; 25XL 016241, £1,312, London Borough of Haringey; 56GF 627660, £3,700, East Sussex; 58HW 280468, £4,350, Hereford & Worcester; 52BT 994839, £5,278, Bedfordshire; 62LB 295922, £16,050, Surrey; 20MP 253241, £20,000, Suffolk; 55GF 564070, £13,000, West Sussex; 20DZ 365765, £10,000, West Midlands; 55JS 036778 £15,040, Surrey; 10TL 251873, £2,000, Wiltshire; 67HF 689322, £3,500, North Yorkshire; 76EB 685068, £20,000, Middlesex; 23DN 305332, £20,000, East Sussex; 11ML 513548, £20,000, Essex; 47JW 176278, £12,072, East Sussex; 49LP 175956, £20,000, Kent; 69XN 388153, £20,000, Lincolnshire; 80BL 528669, £20,000, Lancashire; 1GL 840757, £591, Surrey; 2BB 444175, £8, Oxfordshire; 35QS 147921, £20,000, Hertfordshire; 55LW 717566, £20,000, Derbyshire.

Service luncheon

2nd Division Luncheon Club

General Sir Martin Farndale, President of the 2nd Division Luncheon Club, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Major-General C.D. Farrar-Hockley, Commander 2nd Division, was the chief guest and speaker.

Dinners

London Playing Fields Society

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the London Playing Fields Society, was the principal speaker at a dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel to mark his 21 years as patron of the society. Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, president, who presided and Mr Peter Nathan, chairman, also spoke. Among others present were:

Lady Bramall, Mrs Nathan, Sir Christopher and Lady Slade, Sir Brian and Lady Goswell, Sir Oliver and Lady Popplewell, Sir Peter and Lady Yarranton, Sir John Zochonis, the Mayors and Mayoresses of Merton, Redbridge and Waltham Forest, Dr and Mrs Charles Goodson-Wickes, Mr Douglas Insole and Mrs and Mrs Andrew Wates.

Institute of Actuaries

Lord Bingham of Cornhill, Lord Chief Justice, was the principal guest at the biennial dinner of the Institute of Actuaries held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr Duncan Ferguson, president, also spoke.

Masons' Company

Mr Sandy Copland, Master of the Masons' Company, presided at the annual livery dinner held last night at Mercers' Hall. Mr Douglas Imrie-Brown, Master of the Basketmakers' Company and Major-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley were the principal guests. Among others present were:

The Masters of the Mercers', Cooks' and Broderers' Companies, Senior Officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers, the Director and Senior Instructor of the Building Crafts College and senior representatives of the construction industry.

Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers

Mr Robert Croall, Master of the Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers, presided at the annual Aircraft Industry dinner held last night at Plaisterers' Hall. Liveryman Dr Stephen Hammerton, Liveryman Group Captain Brian Symes and Mr David Marshall, Director General, Society of British Aerospace Companies, also spoke. Mr David Marshall, Air Chief Marshal Sir David Cousins and Mr Michael Marshall were the principal guests.

During the evening the Master presented awards to Mr David Perigo and Mr Simon Prince, the company's 1997 Eric Beverley Bursary winners.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Mr Peter Curphey, President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, presided at a dinner held last night at 1 Lambeth High Street. Dr June Crown also spoke. Among those present were:

Baroness Hooper, the Vice-Chairman of the All Party Pharmaceutical Industry Group, Sir Bernard Tomlinson, the President Designate of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, the President of the British Pharmaceutical Students Association, the Chairman of the Welsh Executive, the Chairman of the Scottish Executive, the Director of Planning, NHS Executive, Department of Health, the Treasury Minister of the Isle of Man Government, the Managing Director of Boots the Chemist and the Chairman of the Guild of Health Writers.

University Women's Club

Dr Ann Walker, of Reading University, was the speaker at a dinner of the University Women's Club held yesterday at 2 Audley Square, London. Mrs Wendy Brandon, chairperson, presided.

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne

The life barony conferred upon Miss Emma Harriet Nicholson has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, of Winterbourne in the Royal County of Berkshire.

Baron Bassam of Brighton

The life barony conferred upon Mr John Steven Bassam has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Bassam of Brighton, of Brighton in the County of East Sussex.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Sir Dominic Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, with his wife Sally and daughters Justine (left) and Georgina, and the insignia of the knighthood he received from the Queen at a Buckingham Palace investiture yesterday

RHS flower show

Frosts take the heat out of autumn's fiery tints

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

IT IS NOT a good year for autumn leaf colour as the recent severe frosts in many areas have browned much of the foliage rather than encouraged fiery tints. However, some has been salvaged to give the Royal Horticultural Society's flower show a seasonal atmosphere.

Much of the colour comes from a collection of oaks included in a display of trees and shrubs from Bluebell Nursery, of Smisby, Leicestershire. Some of the most eye-catching are *Quercus palustris* "Swamp Pygmy" (flame shades), *Q. falcata* "Pagodifolia" (crimson), *Q. pyrenaica* "Pendula" (rich yellow), and *Q. phellos* (crimson).

One of the gold medallists, Burncoose Nurseries, of Redruth, Cornwall, has included autumnal leaf and flower colour in a framework of equally colourful evergreen shrubs including *Elaeagnus x ebbingei* "Gilt Edge" with bright yellow variegated leaves.

Another gold medallist, Lincluden Nursery, of Bisley Green, Surrey, is creating colour with conifers which range from a bright yellow Nordmann fir, *Abies nordmanniana* "Golden Spreader", to the new dwarf copper-tinted conifer, *Podocarpus* "County Park Fire".

Although hardy, autumn-flowering *sasanqua* camellias do not relish frosts, which can damage the flowers, so are best grown in a very sheltered position out of doors or in a cool conservatory. What is thought to be the first ever exhibit of these camellias at a Westminster show has been staged by Coghurst Nursery, of Three Oaks, East Sussex. Rubbing shoulders with old and well-known cultivars are Paradise camellias, a new range of fragrant cultivars bred in Australia, even more in need of frost protection.

Ornamental grasses and grass-like plants are in vogue and not only are they providers of summer interest but many create an impact in autumn with subtle foliage tints and seed heads, as several exhibitors are demonstrating. Southcombe Gardens, of Kenton, Devon, have combined them with autumn-flowering perennials, and the *Miscanthus sinensis* "Sirene" with corn yellow leaves and silvery seed heads forms an impressive centrepiece on the stand of Cottage Garden Plants, of Cuckfield, Sussex. Foxgrove plants are featuring grassy carex or ornamental sedges, ranging from the bronze *Carex comans* to yellow and green striped *C. oshimensis* "Evergold".

The RHS ornamental plants competition is not too well supported with autumnal foliage but is strong on autumnal fruits and herbaceous perennials. The National Trust's Winkworth Arboretum, of Godalming, Surrey, has won the Stephenson R. Clarke cup for four trees and shrubs with autumnal fruits (*Sorbus sargentiana*, *Cotoneaster* "Cornubia", *Crataegus x lavallei* "Carrierei", and *Cornus kousa*); and the class for four trees and shrubs with autumnal foliage (*Cornus kousa*, *Acer palmatum* "Elegans", a prunus species and *Enkianthus perulatus*).

In the exhibition of paintings and drawings, the following artists have been awarded gold medals: Gillian Barlow, of London (watercolours of Dorset heathland plants); Linda Francis, of Kingston, Surrey (watercolours of bromeliads); Martha G Kemp, of Piedmont, California (pencil drawings of wild flowers of California's Sierra Gold Country); Cherry-Anne Lavrih, of Isleworth, Middlesex (watercolours of orchids); Sheila Mannes-Abbott, of Woodley, Berkshire (watercolours of irises); Camilla Speight, of Camberwell, London (pen and ink illustrations for the *RHS Concise Gardener's Dictionary*); and Amanda Jayne Willoughby, of Sheffield, South Yorkshire (illustrations of plants of the urban waste ground).

☐ The show, in the New Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, is open today from 10am to 5pm.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Hans Sachs, poet and dramatist, Nüremberg, 1494; James Elroy Flecker, poet, London, 1884; John Burdon Haldane, physiologist and geneticist, Bhubaneswar, India, 1892; Vivien Leigh, actress, Darjeeling, India, 1913.

DEATHS: Pierre Choderlos de Laclos, soldier, author of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, Taranto, Italy, 1803; George M. Cohan, actor and song writer, New York, 1942; Maurice Utrillo, painter, Le Vesinet, 1955; Mack Sennett, creator of the Keystone Cops films, Hollywood, 1960; Jacques Tati, actor and film director, 1982; Eamonn Andrews, broadcaster, London, 1987; Vladimir Horowitz, pianist, Manhattan, New York, 1989.

Church of Scotland

Ordination and induction

The Rev Christine Houghton, to Dun with Hillside

The Rev John M. Pickering, to Errol with Kilspindie and Rait

The Rev H. Taylor Brown, to Condorrat, Cumbernauld

The Rev Rosemary Smith, to Old, Blantyre

The Rev Richard Baxter, to Kennoway w Windygates and Balgonie

Induction

The Rev Douglas Murray, as Principal at Trinity College, Glasgow University

Introduction

The Rev Fiona M.M. Winn, as Co-Ordinator of Christian Education for Adults at North Leith, Edinburgh

Translations

The Rev Alison Davidge, from Dalmellington, Ayr, to Martyrs', Paisley

The Rev David Anderson, from Northfield, Aberdeen, to Fordyce

The Rev Gordon Kirkwood, from Castlehead, Paisley, to Anderston Kelvingrove, Glasgow

The Rev James N.R. McNeil, from Castlemilk West, Glasgow, to Alva

Retirements

The Rev Ian Taylor, from Abdie and Dunbog with Newburgh

The Rev James Philip, from Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh

The Rev David P.L. Cumming, from Kilmodan and Colintraive

The Rev William Whitelaw, from Bothkennar and Carronshore

The Rev T. Leslie Barr, from Kinross

Forthcoming marriages

Dr P.A. Cauchi and Dr T.J. Secrett

The engagement is announced between Paul Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs Peter Cauchi, of St Julians, Malta, and Tracey Joanne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Secrett, of Enton, Surrey.

Mr S.M. Chick and Miss J. Eason

The engagement is announced between Mark, second son of Mr and Mrs J.R. Chick, of Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire, and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr A.G. Eason, CBE, and Mrs Eason, of Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

Mr P. Cooper and Miss K.M. Hattersley-Smith

The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mrs Anne Stephen, and Kara, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith, of Sissinghurst, Kent.

Mr S.J. Cox and Miss R.K. Marson

The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs Cox, of Kinver, West Midlands, and Rosalind, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Ralph Marson, of Lenham, Kent.

Mr N.F. Green and Miss E.F. Nelstrop

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr Derek Green and the late Mrs Green, formerly of Kensington, London, and Lizzie, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Nelstrop, of Norfolk.

Mr R.J. Haynes and Miss K.E. Landen

The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Rodney Haynes, of Upper Basildon, Berkshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dalby Landen, of Whitchurch-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr P. Lewis and Miss A.M. Lonie

The engagement is announced between Paul, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Islwyn Lewis, of Barnstaple, Devon, and Anne Morag, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Athol Lonie, of Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

Mr D.J. Firman and Miss H.L. Smith

The engagement is announced between David James, son of Mrs Helen Firman, of Harrow, Middlesex, and Helen Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan Smith, of Plymouth, Devon.

Mr C.F.M. Le Roux and Miss P.A. King

The engagement is announced between Fabrice, son of the late Mr Le Roux Smith Le Roux and of Mrs Le Roux, and Penny, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David King.

Mr D.A.J. Maiden and Miss S.M. Stacey

The engagement is announced between Daniel, only son of Mr Ian Maiden, of Beaulieu, Hampshire, and Mrs Ivan Johnston, of Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, and Susan Maria, youngest daughter of Mr Terence Stacey, of London, and Mrs Sari Stacey, of Sonning Common, Berkshire.

Mr J.W.E. Scott and Miss F. Taylor

The engagement is announced between Justin, younger son of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Scott, of Lasborough, Gloucestershire, and Fleur, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Taylor, of Bolton, Lancashire.

Mr C.J.L. Wall and Miss L.L. Adamson

The engagement is announced between Christopher, third son of Mr Jeremy Wall, of Luston, Herefordshire, and Mrs John Hardwick, of Battle, East Sussex, and Louisa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Adamson, of Little Thetford, Cambridgeshire.

Marriages

Mr G.E. Smith and Miss C.M. Baden

The marriage took place on October 11, at St Mary's, Great Baddow, between Mr Gerard Smith, only son of Mr and Mrs Clifford Smith, and Miss Caroline Baden, only daughter of the Revd and Mrs Peter Baden.

Mr R.J. Vines and Mrs E.M. Gilbert

The marriage took place on Monday, October 20, in Exeter, of Mr Richard Vines to Mrs Elizabeth Gilbert.

National ISIS

The 25th anniversary of the national Independent Schools Information Service was celebrated on November 1 with a concert by the National ISIS Strings Academy at St Peter's, Eaton Square, London SW1, and at a reception held in The Mall Galleries. Mr R.S. Trafford, Chairman, National ISIS Committee, and Mr D.J. Woodhead, National Director, ISIS, welcomed the guests.

Lectures

Securities Institute

Mrs Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, was the speaker at the second annual Securities Institute lecture, held yesterday at Merchant Taylors' Hall. Mr Graham Ross Russell, chairman, presided.

Wyndham Place Trust

On the occasion of the 21st Corbishley Memorial Lecture the Trust held a reception at the English-Speaking Union last evening. Professor George Wedell, Chairman, and Mrs Wedell received the guests. Among those present were:

Mr Robin O'Neill (Corbishley Lecturer) and Mrs O'Neill, the Macedonian Ambassador and Mrs Crvenkovski, the Chargé d'Affaires of Bulgaria, Mr Hugh Adamson, Father Bruno Brinkman, SJ, Mr Michael Cullis, Mr and Mrs D.F. Duncan, Mr Hugh Dykes, Professor Hugh Freeman, Mr and Mrs David Hughes, Mr Milos Lutzkanov, Mr Tony Millson, Mr Colin Munro, Dr and Mrs Derek Prag, Mr Bryan Saunders, Mr Michael Smart, Mr F. Szabo and Mrs Fiona Shipley.

Birthdays today

Mr Bryan Adams, singer, 38; Mr R.W. Annand, VC, 83; Sir John Bailey, former HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor, 69; Mr John Berger, author and art critic, 71; Mr E.R.H. Bowring, insurance broker, 82; the Right Rev F.W. Cocks, former Bishop of Shrewsbury, 84; Mr Art Garfunkel, singer and composer, 56; Mrs Caroline Jackson, MEP, 51; Dr Paul Knapman, Coroner for Westminster, 53; Professor Sir David Mason, former president, General Dental Council, 69; Mr Nicholas Maw, composer, 62; Mr Jim Moir, Controller, BBC Radio 2, 56; Mr John Morris, QC, MP, 66; Mr Lester Piggott, former jockey, 62; Rear-Admiral Andrew Richmond, 66; Mr Anthony Rolfe Johnson, tenor, 57; Mr Sam Shephard, actor, 54; Lord Stallard, 76; Sir William Stubbs, educationist, 60; Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC, President, Board of Deputies of British Jews, 54; Mr Ned Temko, Editor, *Jewish Chronicle*, 45; Sir Anthony Tennant, senior adviser, Morgan Stanley UK Group, 67; the Earl of Yarborough, 34.

Service reunion

Sikh Brigade

Officers of the Sikh Brigade held their annual reunion at the Army and Navy Club yesterday. Colonel John Smith presided.

Appointment

Mr John Kelvin Toulmin, QC, to be a Circuit Judge, to sit as an Official Referee on the South Eastern Circuit.

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The Lord is good and upright; therefore he teaches sinners the way they should go. He guides the humble in right conduct and teaches them his way. Psalm 25 : 8,9

BIRTHS

BURRELL - To Helen (née Minoprio) and Richard on 1st November, a son, George John Mathieson.

CASANOVA - On October 31st at The Portland Hospital, to Isabelle (née Summan) and Olivier, a son, Alexandre, a brother for Charles.

CHAN-EDWARDS - On 2nd November 1997 at Queen Charlotte's, to Jeanette Edwards (née Simpson) and Cyril Alex Chan, a daughter, Hannah Frances, a half-sister for Jacob, Erik and Mabel.

COCKCROFT - On October 28th, to Catherine (née Aird) and Rupert, a son, Robert Toby Briggs, a brother for Hebe.

DESPARD - On October 29th a son, James Maximilian for Patrick and Edwina. A brother for William.

FARAJALLA - On Sunday 2nd November 1997 in Lebanon, to Caroline (née Baker) and Fami, a son, Robert George Raad (Robbie), a brother for Samy.

GOBLE - On 3rd November 1997, in Paris, to Hélène (née des Garets) and Jonathan, a son, Thomas - a brother for Mary.

HAYNS - To John and Clare (née Benyon) on November 4th at St Thomas' Hospital, London, a son, Micah Luke.

HUTCHISON - On 2nd November 1997 at The Princess Margaret Hospital, Windsor, to Keeley and Robert, a daughter, Alice Mae, a sister for Katie.

MANNING - On October 29th at Queen Charlotte's, to Sarah and Nick, a son, Henry Michael, a brother for James and Alex.

McCARTHY - To Joanna (née Olding) and Paul, two daughters, Charlotte and Isobel, on 17th October, sisters for Ben and Nicholas.

MacGWIRE - On 21st October unexpectedly at home, to Fiona (née Bisset) and Rory, a daughter, Ellie Mary Louise, a sister for Matthew.

BIRTHS

OATS - To Maria (née Gill) and Simon, on November 1st at Colchester, a son, Frederick John Daniel.

POLLOCK - On Tuesday 28th October at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, to Steven and Vanessa (née de Sellincourt), a daughter, Rosemary Elizabeth.

REINTJES - On November 3rd, to Nicola (née French) and Lawrence, a son, Alistair, a brother for Freddie.

RICHARDSON - To Kimberley (née Wright) and Neill, a daughter Sarah Louise at Law Hospital, Lanarkshire, on 3rd November.

ROBINSON - On 24th October 1997, to Issy (née Blanchard) and James a beautiful son, Samuel Reggie. Happy and safe in Heaven.

ROWLAND PAYNE - On 24th September 1997, to Christopher and Wendy (née Mair) a daughter Anoushka Poppy Joy.

SCHAEFER - On October 30th, to Jennifer (née Sizer) and Robin, a son, Nathan John.

SEYMOUR - To Tom and Alison (née Lofthouse) a daughter Kate Elizabeth on 30th October at the Friarage, Northallerton.

SINGH - On October 27th at The Portland Hospital, to Deepa and Surinder, a son, Arjun Karan.

SWADDLE - To Alison (née Marsh) and Paul, a son, George Patrick, on 22nd October 1997.

WATSON - On November 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Kim and Mark, a son, Thomas, a brother for Sam, Emily and Katy.

WILTON - See Manning.

DEATHS

BROOKE - Robin James on November 3rd very peacefully at The Cedars Nursing Home, Shaftesbury. Adored husband of Alix and very loving father of John and Alice. Private family funeral. Thanksgiving Service in London in New Year to be announced. Donations if desired for The Cedars Nursing Home may be sent to Bracher Brothers FD, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4QL.

CAMPBELL - Janet Anne on November 2nd in her 100th year. Formerly of Sampford Spiney, Devon. Very much loved by her family and all her many friends. Funeral at Sampford Spiney Parish Church on November 11th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if wished to the Church c/o Morris Brothers, 1 Drake Road, Tavistock.

DEWDNEY - Margaret died peacefully in Bristol aged 88 on November 2nd. She was the much loved wife of Wilfred (deceased) and the mother of Marilyn and Richard, also the grandmother of Sophie, Oliver and Guy. Funeral Service Tuesday 11th November 12 noon at Christ Church, Clifton, Bristol. Floral tributes or donations to RNLI may be sent c/o Thomas Davis Funeral Directors, Southville Lodge, Southville Road, Bristol, tel: (0117) 9661965.

DICKINSON - Anne Margaret Dickinson [illegible], peacefully on 4th November in Brendoncare, Winchester, after a long illness borne with courage and dignity. Sister of John. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Wednesday 12th November at 12.15 pm. Family flowers only, donations to Brendon Nursing Trust, Park Road, Winchester SO23 7BE.

DOUGLAS-WITHERS - On November 3rd 1997 peacefully at home Maj. Gen. John Douglas-Withers CBE MC, darling husband of Sylvia (Dickie) and greatly loved father, and grandfather. Private family funeral. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Garrison Church, Larkhill, Wiltshire on Friday November 28th at 2.30 pm. Please, no flowers but he wished any donations to be sent to Haematology Research Fund c/o Dr. T. Littlewood, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford OX3 9DU.

[illegible] - Eric Roy John passed away peacefully on November 1st. Much loved husband of Karin, father of Roger and grandfather of Rupert, respected and loved by all who knew him. Private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations to the Hospital of St John & St Elizabeth, 60 Grove End Road, St John's Wood, London NW8 9NH would be gratefully received.

HALLETT - On November 3rd, Geoffrey St John F.R.C.S. died peacefully, at home with his family. Beloved husband of Patricia, adored father and grandfather. He never lost his sense of humour and bore his long illness with enormous dignity and courage. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St John the Baptist, Boldre on Friday 14th November 2.30 pm. Please no flowers, but he wished any donations to be sent to The Lymington Hospital Endowment Fund, c/o F.W. House & Sons, F/D, Lymington, Hampshire.

HILLS - Anthony Lawrence on 4th November after a long illness, husband of Pamela and father of Jeremy, Nina and Camilla. Funeral private. No flowers please but donations if desired to the Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond.

HONOUR - On 25th October 1997 suddenly in Highcliffe, Dr. Alfred John Honour, beloved husband of Lys. Enquiries to A.V. Ridout Funeral Directors, Highcliffe, tel: (01425) 272835.

HUNTER - Margaret Mary Phyllis (née Carsiter). Peacefully in her sleep at home on Thursday 30th October, Margaret, dearly loved wife of Murray Hunter, Mother of Frances, Sunniva, Andrew, Caroline, and David, and Grandmother of Becky, Ben, Emma, Bram, Sam, Henrietta, Isabella, Sunniva, Jenny, and Alexander. Funeral on Wednesday November 5th, at Warriston Crematorium, where a service will be held in the Cloister Chapel at 3.15 pm, to which all friends are invited. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to I.F.A.W.

JOY - Elizabeth Jane (née Roe), beloved wife of Kit and devoted mother to James and Howard, died peacefully at home on 4th November 1997. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Merton Park on Monday 10th November at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only - donations if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care, c/o *Co-operative Funeral* Services, 91 London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5HP.

KHEMLANI - Mrs Padma Arjandas peacefully on 1st November 1997, beloved mother of Priya Assomull and grandmother of Sujata V. Assomull. May God rest her soul in peace.

MARRIOTT - On November 2nd 1997 John Miles Marriott C.P.F.A. M.B.C.S., of Bolton. All enquiries Ralph's Funeral Service, Bolton, tel: (01204) 523488.

MASON - Anne (née Byford) of Merton Park, aged 54 years, peacefully at St Raphael's Hospice on 2nd November 1997, wife of Neil, mother of Fiona and Helen. Funeral Service 2.30 pm Tuesday 11th November at St Mary's Church, Merton Park. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to St Raphael's Hospice, London Road, North Cheam, Surrey SM3 9DX.

ORTON - On 2nd November 1997, suddenly at her home in Oadby (Leicester), Amelia Ada Orton aged 81 years, loved wife of the late Flt. Lt. John Goodacre Orton. Dear mother of Vivienne and Grandmother of Christopher, Timothy and Mark. Funeral Service at St James Church, Harrington, Evesham on Wednesday November 12th at 12 noon. Interment following in the churchyard. All flowers to Ginns & Gutteridge or to the church and further enquiries to Ginns & Gutteridge Funeral Directors of Leicester, tel: 0116 2516117.

POLGLASE - John, beloved husband of Ann and wonderful step-father to Luis Clay, died peacefully at his home in Sotogrande on October 28th. R.I.P.

REFORD - Dr. Anthony John Hope Reford, husband of Monica and much loved father, died peacefully on October 31st. Requiem Mass 2.30 pm Monday 10th November St Aloysius, Woodstock Road, Oxford.

SOUTHEY - Edward ('Teddie') aged 93, much loved husband for 67 years of 'Toodle' (Sue) peacefully, at Malmesbury Hospital on 31st October. No funeral.

TYER - Elizabethe Rosemarye on Sunday, 26th October, 1997 in hospital after a long illness borne with great courage. Funeral Service Friday, 7th November at 11.30 am, St Denys' Church, Rotherfield. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o Paul Bysouth Funeral Directors, Crowborough. Tel: (01892) 655000.

WHITE - Penelope Anne Mary, on 1st November 1997, aged 79 years. Beloved Wife for 57 years of Ronald. Mother of David, Peter and Richard and Grandmother. Funeral Service at St Cross Church, Winchester on Wednesday 12th November at 2 pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to The Hospital of St Cross c/o Jno. Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

WHITE - Mildred Annie on 1st November 1997 aged 95 years, sister of the late Doris White, peacefully at Raynere Residential Home. Funeral Service at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, Bucks., on Thursday 13th November at 2 pm. Enquiries to H.C. Grimstead Ltd, tel: 01494 434393.

WIELER - Major Denis Leslie Eric Wieler [illegible] (Retired) on 31st October. Funeral on Monday 10th November at 3pm, St Peter's Church, Hambledon, Surrey.

WILLIS - Susan. Peacefully at home on November 1st, 1997, aged 81, wife of the late Derek Lister d'Anyers Willis. Funeral Service will be held at Guildford Crematorium at 12 noon on Friday 7th November. Family flowers only. Donations to Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, Farnham, Surrey.

WILLIAMS - Dr. C. Edward Williams died peacefully on November 1st. He will be dearly missed by Ann, Geoff, Sally, Mike, Liz, Richard, Kim, Campbell and Kate. Funeral 1.40 pm Thursday November 6th at Truro Crematorium, Cornwall.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CHUTTWELL - Ian Andrew died November 5th 1994 St Gallen, Switzerland. Remembered today and every day with great love and affection. Jean, Caroline and Alexander.

FARRAR - Susan. All our love dear Susie on your birthday, as ever. Mum, Rosie and family and Robert.

THORPE - Lewis (5th November 1913 - 10th October 1977). Remembered after twenty years with love and admiration.

YOUNG - Frank. 5th November 1992. Always in my life. Moung.

WANTED

AVIATION On Anglesey. Anyone with connections please contact Flt Lt. H J Evans, RAF retired on: 01244 371349

WANTED

MINK COATS, fox coats purchased. Best price paid. All inquires/details Box No 7452.

THIRD MAN. I am researching the making of the film & any Vienna connection. If you want to share your knowledge, contact fax: 00 431 7748583.

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OBITUARIES

JOHN STARKS

John Starks, naval architect, died in Teignmouth, Devon, on October 17 aged 80. He was born in Devonport on April 29, 1917.

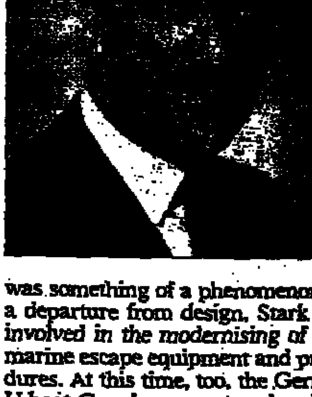
When, in 1964, Cunard placed the order for its new cruise liner *Queen Elizabeth 2*, John Starks was the technical director of the Clydeside shipbuilders John Brown and Co, who were to design and build the vessel. It was, therefore, Starks who headed the technical team that realised Cunard's elegant design, a rival to P&O's *Canberra*.

It was the high point in a distinguished career of ship design that had earlier encompassed Britain's first nuclear submarine, the *Dreadnought*. That in itself had been a milestone in a life that had been largely devoted to improving submarine design as it progressed from the cramped boats of the Second World War through to the nuclear age.

John Frederick Starks was the third of six brothers, brought up in the Devonport district of Plymouth. His mother was left a widow when he was still young and the family experienced some hardship. Though academically bright, Starks had to leave Devonport High School at 15 to earn his living and so relieve the strain on the family finances. He became a shipwright apprentice at Devonport Dockyard in 1932. In 1936 he gained a cadetship in naval construction, and was selected for training with the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors. He studied at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and gained a first-class professional certificate.

He joined the corps in 1939, and throughout the Second World War worked on submarine design. He was involved in the redesign of the Swordfish class, known as the 1940 "S" Class submarine, as well as the "U" Class, both of which later had a leading role in disrupting Rommel's supply line to North Africa. He also worked on the "A" Class submarine, which had a welded pressure hull that enabled it to dive to greater depths than boats with rivetted hulls.

In 1945 Starks joined the staff of Admiral (Submarines) with the rank of constructor commander. Even in a submarine service where the accent is on youth, a 28-year-old commander



was something of a phenomenon. In a departure from design, Stark was involved in the modernising of submarine escape equipment and procedures. At this time, too, the German U-boat *Graph* was captured and put into service with the Royal Navy. Starks was greatly interested in the differences between British and German submarines, and in March 1948 he presented a paper to the Institute of Naval Architects on *German U-Boat design and production*.

Later that year he first became associated with the shipbuilders John Brown and Co at Clydebank. He was based in Glasgow as the Admiralty's principal ship overseer, representing the Admiralty's interests among all the Clyde shipbuilding companies engaged in naval work. This embraced construction of the Tiger Class cruisers which, finally completed in the 1950s, were fitted with automatic 6in and 3in guns to make them a formidable weapons platform. The conception of a new and powerful class of flotilla leader gave rise to the Daring Class, which also entered service in the 1950s.

From 1951 to 1955 Starks was in Washington, where he worked with the British Joint Services Mission. The many American friends he made there stood him in good stead during his subsequent work on nuclear submarine design, and it was a particularly happy time for him, his wife Maggie and their two sons.

Back in Britain in 1955, at the Admiralty in Bath, he became chief constructor in charge of a team working on "new design" submarines, the first to go into service with

The QE2, designed and built on the Clyde — a project which gave John Starks great satisfaction

the Royal Navy in the postwar period (for at that time the submarine fleet was entirely of Second World War vintage). These new submarines were the Porpoise and Oberon classes, which, for the first time, used plastics and glass fibre in their construction. With their high submerged speeds, (16 knots to the "A" Class's 8 knots) and improved diving depths, they were the final expression of conventional submarine design before the advent of nuclear propulsion opened seemingly boundless possibilities for the undersea weapon.

Starks was also involved in the work which led to the Royal Navy's first guided missile ships, the County Class destroyers, of which the first to enter service was *HMS Devonshire*. (Other-service critics of this class claimed that the Navy had pulled a fast one for the purposes of the defence estimates, and that the County Class were really cruisers. Certainly, by the time *Devonshire* was completed in 1962 she was, at 5,200 tons, almost twice as heavy as the standard destroyer of those times, and her successors grew even larger.)

Starks was next employed on the design of Britain's first nuclear submarines. Although the reactor technology was American, the rest of the boat, including its sonar and weaponry was entirely British in design. *Dreadnought*, the first of a class of submarines which were hunter killers and not ballistic missile carriers, was launched in 1960. Of all the ships he designed, she was to remain Starks's favourite.

In 1960 he left the Admiralty to join John Brown as technical director. The *QE2* project gave him great satisfaction. She was a 900ft vessel displacing only 58,000 tons, remarkable statistics which owed much to the fact that aluminium was used extensively in her construction. As a result, this great ship had a draught of only 31ft. But the clouds were gathering around John Brown. Already the shipbuilding industry was being challenged by air travel and by foreign competition. In 1968 John Brown joined Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, but this was to be a short lived marriage. The company went bankrupt in 1971, though a sit-in by the workforce prolonged its life, after a fashion, into 1972.

By that time Starks had been invited to join Vosper Thorneycroft, the Southampton shipbuilders, and to supervise the work they were doing on Brazilian navy frigates in Rio de Janeiro. After the financial stress of the years on the Clyde, it was a very welcome opportunity. In 1972 he and his wife moved to Rio where they spent five happy years.

On his return to Britain in 1977, Starks retired to his native Devon, to Teignmouth, and enjoyed a contented retirement by the sea for 20 years. He is survived by his wife Maggie and by their two sons.

PROFESSOR A. H. ARMSTRONG

Professor A. H. Armstrong, FBA, classical scholar, died on October 16 aged 88. He was born on August 13, 1909.

HILARY ARMSTRONG was one of a small band of European scholars who in the middle years of this century re-established Plotinus in the position he had been given by Renaissance humanists as one of the leading philosophers of the ancient world, equalled in importance only by Plato and Aristotle.

When Armstrong published his *Introduction to Ancient Philosophy* in 1947, this was not a view that would have been familiar to classical scholars of the British school, nor was it welcomed by them. But since then detailed knowledge of the intricacies of Plotinus's philosophy has been increasingly recognised as essential to a rounded study of the thought of the ancient world, and as an indispensable tool for understanding the thought of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

Armstrong's most important contribution to this quiet revolution was his translation into English of the new text of Plotinus's *Enneads*. When the seventh and final volume of his translation was published in 1988, Armstrong's interest in neo-Platonism already stretched back more than half a century, to the years he had spent in Cambridge and Swansea before the war, breaking the ground for his pioneering work, *The Architecture of the Intelligible Universe in Plotinus*, which Cambridge University Press published in 1940.

Arthur Hilary Armstrong was educated at Lancing and at Jesus College, Cambridge. On graduation, he stayed for a while at Cambridge, with a post at the Classics Faculty library, before moving to Swansea in 1936 as an assistant lecturer in Classics. From 1939 he was Professor of Classics at Valletta, Malta, until the evacuation of British civilians in 1943, when he returned to England, going first to Beaumont College and then returning to the University of Wales at Cardiff.

In 1950 he was appointed to the Gladstone Chair of Greek in Liverpool. Here the significance of his work on Plotinus was increasingly recognised. In 1967 he edited the Cambridge *History of Later Greek and Early Medieval Philosophy*. By 1970, English mistrust of neo-Platonism had waned sufficiently for Armstrong's work on Plotinus to be rewarded by his election as a fellow of the British Academy.

He had never relished the burdens of academic administration, so in 1972 he took early retirement from his Chair at Liverpool, and accepted an invitation to move to the University of Dalhousie, at Halifax in Nova Scotia. There a new chair was specially created for him, allowing him to pursue his teaching and research unfettered by external commitments. In 1983, however, he returned to his home in Shropshire.

Naturally reticent, Armstrong greatly valued the stimulus and affection of colleagues and friends. A keen gardener and walker, he did much of his thinking in the open air. He was a voracious reader into advanced old age and was blessed with an astonishing gift of recall.

As well as philosophy, religion played a large part in his inner world. The son of a High Church Tory vicar (first of West Dean, then of Funtingdon, both in Sussex) he was educated as a devout Anglican. As a young man at Cambridge he was received into the Roman Catholic Church and married Deborah Wilson of a Midlands Quaker family.

Armstrong, whose theological sympathies were always liberal, welcomed the *aggiornamento* under Pope John XXIII. Over many years he contributed articles and reviews to Catholic journals such as *The Heythrop Journal*, *Downside Review*, *The Tablet* and *Eastern Churches Quarterly*, concerning himself mainly with the connections between philosophy and theology in the Patristic Age. He was a pioneer founder, with others, of the quadrennial Oxford Patristic Conference. He also assisted the Catholic hierarchy, following the second Vatican Council, in the translation of liturgical texts into English. He was not unhappy to don the mantle of Catholic philosopher.

Well before the second Vatican council he had been much concerned at the repression of theologians and scholars under Pope Pius XII, and various factors in later life contributed to make him ever more critical of Christian dogmatism. He eventually returned without fuss to the Church of England, occupying a prominent forward pew at the weekly Sunday morning worship in St Laurence's, Ludlow.

There, in Ludlow churchyard, his ashes have been added to those of his wife, close by the ashes of another distinguished classical scholar, A. E. Housman. No two men could have been more dissimilar in their lives or in their beliefs, but both recognised the importance, for humane learning, of a scrupulous study of the texts of antiquity. Both did so in a way that was quintessentially English yet won recognition in the wider world of European classical scholarship.

Hilary Armstrong is survived by two sons and a daughter; two daughters predeceased him.

STANLEY WILLIAMS

Williams teaching at the School of American Ballet

Stanley Williams, ballet dancer and teacher, died on October 21 aged 72. He was born at Chappel, Essex, on March 5, 1925.

WHEN the Royal Danish Ballet gave its first London season at Covent Garden in 1953, an autograph hunter trying to identify the unfamiliar dancers was asking them to pronounce their names as they emerged from the stage door. To his surprise, the answer from one of the leading men was "Williams".

English by birth, Stanley Williams had grown up in Denmark, begun dancing there and became one of the most stylish artists of the Royal Theatre. But an even more distinguished career was to follow when he moved to New York and became recognised as probably the best ballet teacher anywhere during the past three decades.

Williams was not interested, as a performer or teacher, in brilliant effects. What he was after was perfection, and it was his single-minded pursuit of this that drew such virtuosos as Nureyev and Baryshnikov to his classes at the School of American Ballet, happy to stand at the barre next to students so as to benefit from his concentration on exactness and finish, control and shape, the relationship of one step to another within the musical phrase.

Williams's obsession with excellence, and a certain personal reticence, may have limited his own performing career. He was a joy to watch in the ballets of the 19th-century Danish master August Bournonville, for the smooth eloquence he gave to the solos in *Napoli* and other works. But only once or twice was he given a role that provoked more theatrical fire from him: as the Gaoler in Massine's *Symphonie Fantastique* and as Mercutio in Ashton's *Romeo and Juliet*. So it was no great sadness to him when an injury restricted him to the less demanding roles, since by then he had found that he enjoyed teaching others more than performing.

Stanley Williams's father was an English horse dealer and former jockey, but his mother was Danish and they moved from Newmarket to Copenhagen when he was about seven. He entered the Royal Theatre's ballet school at nine, on the suggestion of a family friend. He duly graduated into the company and at 24 was promoted to solo dancer — the highest rank, corresponding to principal dancer elsewhere.

But the then director, Harold Lander, must have observed his thoughtful attitude to dancing, and only a year later, in 1950, asked him to begin giving some classes too. Williams never failed to credit his own chief teacher, Karl Marrild, but was out of sympathy with his "sergeant-major" manner, and acquired more understanding of teaching from long discussions with the Russian Vera Volkova, who became artistic adviser to the Royal Danish Ballet.

When George Balanchine was in Copenhagen a few years later, he watched Williams's classes with interest and eventually invited him to New York. He went first as a guest teacher, but in 1964 joined the faculty of the New York City Ballet and its attached school of American Ballet. Williams soon made himself the most vital member of the faculty, of which he rose to become chairman.

He taught both boys and girls at all levels, but his chief memorial is the succession of outstanding male dancers who graduated into the City Ballet, and the American Ballet Theatre, under his guidance. He also regularly staged some of Bournonville's showpiece dances for the school's annual public programmes, and compiled a collection of these into a big *Bournonville Divertissement*, which entered the City Ballet's repertoire to much acclaim.

Sadly, Williams's native land saw little of him, although one of the earliest proofs of his ability had come during his one brief spell with a British company: the short-lived Ballet Comique founded by the designer George Kirsta in 1954. Offering a repertoire of new ballets by young choreographers, the company failed to find audiences on its opening tour, and was dissolved after a few months. Not, however, before it had shown excellent dancing by its corps de ballet as well as the soloists, and among some of its young dancers a remarkable improvement on their previous work. The credit for this was clearly due to Williams, who had taken leave of absence from Copenhagen to act as ballet master and teacher, besides dancing in ballets by Peter Darrell and others.

Williams received honours in both of his adopted countries. More important to him was the high regard and affection in which he was held by dancers. He was not married, and he did not retire; his work was his life to the end. His youthful, ebullient gregariousness gradually changed to a more withdrawn manner, but he never lost his love for his profession and his pride in it, nor the essential kindness behind even his strictest demands.

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The Insolvency Act 1986
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 26th November 1997 at The Old Bakery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts, SG8 5EA at 3.00pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 30th day of October 1997
By Order of the Board
S Johnson, Director

RULE 4.106 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
The Fruit Connection Limited
IN LIQUIDATION
TAKE NOTICE THAT I, David John Mason, of Morton Thornton & Co, Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD was appointed Liquidator of The Fruit Connection Limited by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on 30 October 1997
Dated this 30 October 1997
David John Mason, Liquidator

Notice of appointment of David John Pallen and William Jason Hugh Elias. Name of company: Sun Express Holidays Plc T/A Suntours. Nature of business: Travel Operators. Address of registered office: 10 Hills Place, London W1R 1AF. Liquidator's name and address: David John Pallen, Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU. Date of appointment: 5 September 1997. By whom appointed: Members and Creditors.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Sun Express Holidays Plc (In Liquidation)
The creditors of the above-named company are requested on or before 31 December 1997, to send their names, addresses and particulars of their claims to the undersigned, the Joint Liquidators of the company, at Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.
Date: 30 October 1997
David John Pallen
Joint Liquidator

A.N.A. Trading Company Limited T/AS NEWS BACK IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106, notice is hereby given that I, E.P. Barry, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 30th October 1997. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 30th October 1997
E.P. Barry, FCA, Liquidator

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Trust
Scheme to vary the regulation of the Charity
Reference: RH/47022-313976/CD(T)
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at GAP House, 44 Queen's Road, Reading, by application to the Secretary of the Trust or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, TA1 4BL quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

ON THIS DAY

November 5, 1963

Home grown talent has always had a leading role in this hardy annual. 1963 was no exception to the rule. The reviewer appears, rather reluctantly, to have enjoyed the show

THE BEATLES ON PARADE

Prince of Wales Theatre :

Royal Variety Performance

Tell artists — or their audiences for that matter — that they are assisting at a great occasion and they at once create an atmosphere which leaves criticism stunned and helpless. Such an occasion is the Royal Variety Performance in aid of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund: this year's performance took place last night in the presence of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Without this special atmosphere the show might well have worried us, for since the rise of television, it has almost inevitably become a mixture that refuses to coagulate. What, we find ourselves asking, has the tragic, mutually destructive relationship of Albert Steptoe and his son Harold to do with the world of simple innocence which Mr. Eric Sykes and Hattie Jacques enter for their brother-and-sister act?

What has either of these small-scale performances to do with a cheerful bit of fooling in which Mr. Charlie Drake exploits his tininess and Miss Tessa Davies's tallness, or with genial, large-scale show-stopping extracts from *Pickwick* and *Half a Sixpence* except that we would never, on these occasions, willingly do without Mr. Drake, Mr. Harry Secombe and Mr. Tommy Steele. It is possible to ask what connexion any of these pleasures has with the youthfully private world in which The Beatles exercise the combination of musical naivety with electronic sophistication which suits their engaging, irreverent cheerfulness and the loudest common chords since the end of *Ein Heldenleben*.

This is not to say that we object to any of the ingredients of this vigorous, enjoyable hotchpotch. Miss Jacques and Mr. Sykes are personalities welcome wherever they are encountered, and any programme profits from the totally imagined, creative acting which Mr. Harry H. Corbett and Mr. Wilfrid Brambell bring to the Steptoes.

In the parade of stars there was, perhaps, less that was borrowed from television than might have been expected. Mr. Dickie Henderson filled occasional gaps with some polished work. Mr. Francis Brunn juggled incredibly and Miss Susan Maughan sang with vigorous enthusiasm. The Clark Brothers' gaily gymnastic dancing and the "Rose Adagio" for *The Sleeping Beauty*, danced by Miss Nadia Nerina and members of the Royal Ballet gave pleasure.

Messrs. Michael Flanders and Donald Swan provided relaxed, sophisticated wit; Miss Marlene Dietrich, tall, slim, immobile, provided the evening's magical contact with a legendary world in which stars never set.

The initial thawing out process was undertaken by Mr. Max Bygraves with splendid success.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

NEWS

Louise ruling for the Internet

■ Louise Woodward could learn today whether she is to escape the life sentence imposed on her for murdering the eight-month-old baby Matthew Eappen.

Judge Hiller B. Zobel, who heard emergency motions calling for her release, said that he could publish his decision on the *Internet today*. He also gave a hint that the verdict could be reduced to one of assault and battery, which would mean that she could be freed from Framingham prison................ Page 1

Rape victim wins record damages

■ A mother of three has been awarded record damages of nearly £74,000 by a county court judge after she sued her former boss, whom she accused of raping her twice. With costs, this will take the total bill for the company director she claimed attacked her to over £132,000.............................. Page 1

Prince's tribute

For the first time since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the Prince of Wales paid public tribute to his former wife's charity work.............................. Page 1

Royal Opera crisis

The Royal Opera company could be forced to declare itself bankrupt within a week, Lord Chadlington, its chairman, told MPs. He had until November 12 to present a rescue package to the Arts Council.................. Page 1, 5

Europe campaign

A national campaign to counter the tide of Euroscepticism was launched by the Government and the Liberal Democrats......Page 2

WPC in tears

A WPC broke down in tears in court as she described how she found herself alone among a crowd of youngsters who attacked her screaming: "kill her, kill her" ....Page 7

School victory

Children whose parents waged a year-long legal battle to secure places at a local comprehensive *celebrated victory* .... Page 9

'Food deserts'

Pockets of inner-city and rural Britain have become "food deserts" threatening the health of the poor and elderly, the Government said. Ministers are now considering ways of improving nutrition .... Page 10

Workers' rule

The European Commission will prepare the way today for a new law under the social chapter that would require firms to consult employees on policy .... Page 11

Children's TV

Children are being starved of quality television because of too many of cartoons, said broadcasting watchdogs................ Page 13

Lorry violence

Tony Blair urged Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, to take swift action to help British lorry drivers stranded by the strike in France, as violence erupted near Boulogne ... Page 15

Saddam meeting

Iraq's confrontation with the United Nations enters a critical phase when a UN delegation arrives in Baghdad hoping to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans in inspection teams............ Page 16

Torture allegation

A Zambian opposition politician has been tortured while under detention for alleged involvement *in last week's failed military uprising*, his lawyer said .... Page 17

Animal rights

The Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights activists, in a country where large parts of the economy depend on overworked beasts of burden............ Page 18

Boycott gives himself out

■ The impossible now looks inevitable. Geoffrey Boycott, Yorkshire's doughtiest opening bat is selling up in his home *county and moving to Bournemouth. And, in another* cricketing shock, Richie Benaud, the former Australian captain, has agreed to be the patron of France Cricket, the new governing body across the Channel .... Page 3

The Prince of Wales greets volunteers from a development project at the Crossroads shantytown outside Cape Town. Page 1

BUSINESS

Botnar case: After six years of investigation, involving up to 135 inspectors incurring millions of pounds of costs, the Inland Revenue dropped its prosecution of Octav Botnar, the former chairman of Nissan UK......................Page 27

Brokers bids: *Willis Corroon and* Sedgwick, the last two heavyweight insurance brokers in the UK, could be in American hands by the end of the year..............................Page 27

Cautious consumers: Optimism appears to have peaked after hitting *levels not seen since* 1988, a survey shows ....Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 9 to 4,897.4. Sterling was unchanged at 102.9 with the pound rising .84 cents to $1.6854 but falling 1.11 pfennigs to DM2.9002 .... Page 30

[illegible]

Football: Manchester United arrived in Holland for their Champions' League tie confident that they can beat Feyenoord by more than one goal...................... Page 48

Athletics: Bruce Longden, who coached Sally Gunnell, and Carl *Johnson, who worked with Jonathan* Edwards, were among the leading British coaches made redundant because of the sport's financial crisis......................Page 52

Rugby union: Lloyds TSB is expected to announce a deal to sponsor the five *nations* worth £15 *million* over the next three years .. Page 49

Squash: Seven Britons reached the second round of the World Open championship in Malaysia including Simon Parke, the England No 1...................................... Page 49

[illegible]

House strife: As the biggest arts row for years unfolds at Covent Garden, the dance and opera critics of *The Times* assess the implications, and Richard Morrison outlines political risks .... Page 39

Journey man: Vaughan Williams's *opera The Pilgrim's Progress* receives a superb semi-staged performance by the Royal OperaPage 40

Direct action: "An open mind and a steely grip" — the challenging director Robert Wilson talks about his contribution to the French Theatre Season, Marguerite Duras's *La Maladie de la Mort*.....Page 41

Playing away: At the end of their European tour, Raymond Leppard and his Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra give a powerful Festival Hall performance..............Page 41

[illegible]

Sexual oddity: How Alfred Kinsey's view of women was at odds with his philosophy of sexual liberation . . . final extract from the James H. Jones biography of the social scientist.................. Page 20

Fast track: League tables in education are now considered so important that even toddlers are being tested to put them on the fast track to high grades......................Page 21

Nigella Lawson: Englishness and innocence; Clare Short, the Government's great treasure; an animated argument..............Page 21

[illegible]

Top spots: What are the most desirable addresses in London? A survey of upmarket estate agents has produced a surprising list Page 43

[illegible]

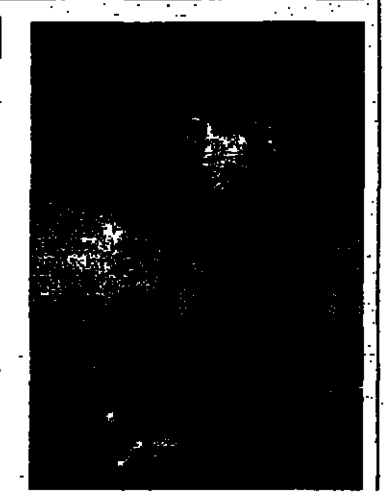
According to Helmut Kohl, the Germany Army as a whole should not be defamed just because of a minority of ultra-Right soldiers. But the alarm has its origins in the history of Germany and Europe. Hitler salutes and ant-Semitic slogans by Germans in uniform are disturbing, as is the news that neo-Nazis are using e-mail and the Internet to spread their message of hate. Kohl has to confront and isolate this evil in order to nip it in the bud. What is at stake is not only the image of the German armed forces but the image of the country — *La Repubblica*, Rome

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **FILMS**
Geoff Brown reviews *Face/Off*, starring John Travolta, left, and Gina Gershon

■ **BOOKS**
Peter Ackroyd marvels at the time-defying spirit of London, Joanna Pitman on the geisha



RADIO & TV

Preview: A pub landlady is beaten senseless and nobody helps. *Bystanders* (BBC2, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond considers women behind the wheel and in the classroom ....Pages 46, 47

OPINION

The good emusceptics

Crude, xenophobic, old-fashioned slogans based on the presence of the Queen's head on the banknote obscure the far more cogent and intellectual arguments of modern Euroscepticism.................. Page 23

Europe's highwaymen

Tomorrow, when President Chirac and M Jospin arrive in London for an Anglo-French summit, Tony Blair must demand guarded convoys as an absolute minimum short-term measure.......... Page 23

Circling the square

If Trafalgar Square's problems can be imaginatively solved, it will serve as a model for other cities................................ Page 23

[illegible]

SIMON JENKINS

Grants are being cut. Boards are in turmoil. Budgets are flying everywhere. And already the Treasury Scarpias are avenged. It was a real bullet, Tosca. The Coliseum is dead .... Page 22

GEORGE SOROS

It is for the people of Europe to decide exactly what kind of Europe they want. The EU as it is fails to meet their needs and aspirations. But what is imperfect can be improved. This is what open society is all about .... Page 22

ALAN COREN

Up until last Monday morning, I had little in common with St Paul.............................. Page 22

PETER RIDDELL

The Government now faces the first real test of its often repeated commitment to strengthen the role of Parliament in scrutinising decisions............................ Page 8

OBITUARIES

John Starks, naval architect; **Professor A.H. Armstrong**, classical scholar; **Stanley Williams**, ballet dancer and teacher ....Page 25

LETTERS

EMU; abortion debate; press freedom; whaling dispute; prayers in pubs; bicycle speeds; language tsar .... Page 23

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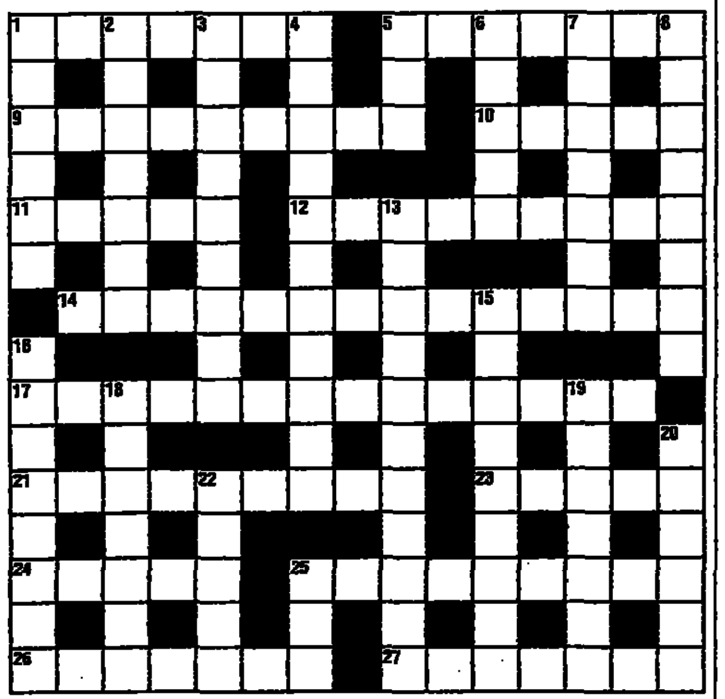


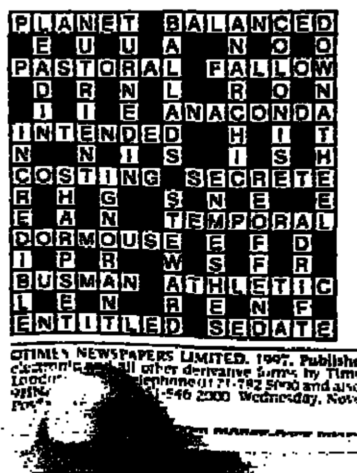
ACROSS

1 Island race — runs it in error (7).
5 Classic route modern French artist follows (2,5).
9 Cockney's pet mother found in port (9).
10 Italian city needing another name when burnt (5).
11 In which a Frenchman sleeps in the dark (5).
12 Play written by Shaw as a vehicle for Jonathan and others (9).
14 Line of children hurries along, showing insincere grief (9,5).
17 A very raw point on part of one's leg (8,6).
21 Controller of vital beat who sets speed limits? (9).
23 By Mondrian, a sacred work of art (5).
24 Patterned cloth put on piano (5).
25 Steak done badly in French place (9).
26 One English poet's bashful about Parisienne... (7).
27 ... while another's in her bed endlessly (7).

DOWN

1 Cheerfully endure speculator having success (4,2).
2 Continentals are not so narrow-minded (7).
3 All the same, I make an impression on one state (9).
4 With head seen, kid may be discovered in this (4-3-4).
5 Amount Marathon leader's up? (3).
6 Man, for example, holding up line of fine thread (5).
7 English king a European upset in island (7).
8 Trial for motorist — Toad crashing into others (4,4).
13 Survive bad piece of driving — run into however (4,7).
15 *Money the first bidder offered for* kitchen equipment (3-6).
16 Source of divine music Peter transmits (3,5).
18 Alternative for the acre (7).
19 Outstanding bowling? Exactly (7).
20 Bishop blessing dog (6).
22 Gong bringing many into dinner, perhaps (5).
25 Essay of 15 lines (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,628



Times Two Crossword, page 52

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.01 am	Sun sets: 4.27 pm
Moon sets 8.38 pm	Moon rises 11.34 am

First quarter November 7
London 4.27 pm to 7.53 am
Bristol 4.36 pm to 7.12 am
Edinburgh 4.24 pm to 7.30 am
Manchester 4.23 pm to 7.12 am
Penzance 4.52 pm to 7.20 am

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Recycled paper made up 42.6% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** Scotland will start overcast with rain, becoming lighter and more showery. Northern Ireland will be breezy and mostly cloudy with rain. England and Wales will have a mild but blustery day with showers. Eastern England will have longer dry periods.

Tonight it will remain blustery everywhere. There will be further rain across *western Scotland and Northern Ireland.* Wales and western parts of England will have showers, heavy in southwest England, but eastern England will be mostly dry.

☐ **London, E Anglia, E Midlands, W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, NW England:** a few bright spells, but mostly cloudy with showers. A blustery southwest wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **SE England, Central S England, *Channel Isles, SW England:*** *bright spells* but rather cloudy with showers, heaviest near the coast. A blustery southwest wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **E England, Central N, NE England:** bright spells and isolated showers. A fresh southwest wind. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, N Ireland:** mostly cloudy with rain. A blustery northwest wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** overcast, rain. Fresh north wind. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** cloudy with rain, becoming drier. A fresh southeast wind Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** cloudy with rain, becoming clearer later. Winds moderate, westerly Max 13C (55F).

☐ ***Outlook:*** *unsettled and often windy.* Relatively mild.

[illegible]

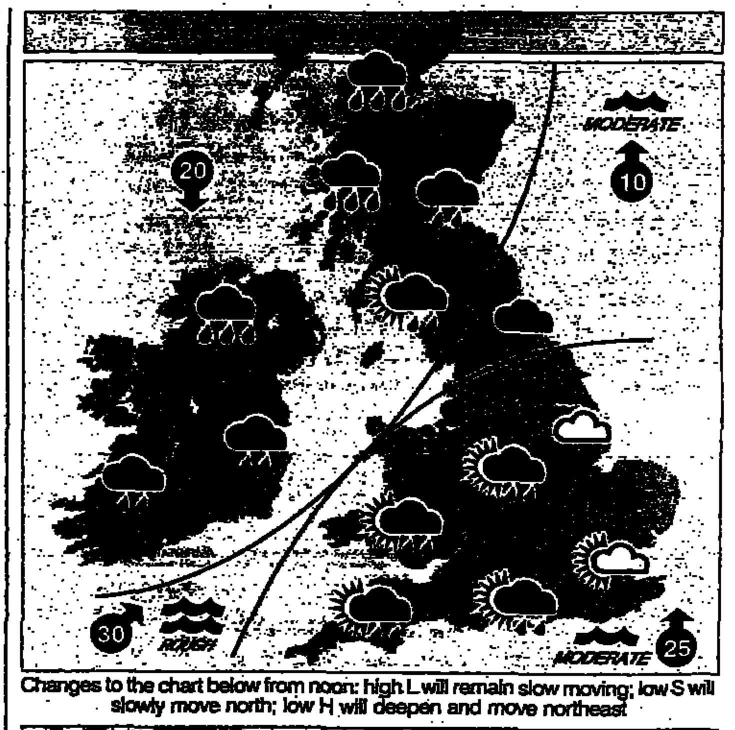
24 hrs to 6 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.11	8	46	du	Isle of Wight	0.1	0.17	13	55	r
Anglesey	0.6	-	11	52	c	Jersey	1.7	0.11	15	59	r
Aspatria	2.1	-	11	52	b	Kinloss	0.2	0.01	9	48	du
Aviemore	-	0.01	8	46	sn	Leeds	-	-	10	50	du
Belfast	-	0.01	9	48	c	Lerwick	-	0.54	8	46	r
Birmingham	-	0.03	10	50	r	Leuchars	-	0.07	9	48	r
Bognor R	0.2	0.13	12	54	s	Littlehmptn	0.1	0.16	12	54	r
Bournem'th	-	0.24	13	55	r	London	2.6	0.02	12	54	r
Bristol	-	0.02	11	52	du	Lowestoft	5.4	-	10	50	c
Buxton	-	0.01	7	45	du	Manchester	0.5	0.01	10	50	b
Cardiff	-	0.02	9	48	r	Margate	0.2	0.10	10	50	r
Clacton	3.8	-	11	52	b	Morecambe	0.8	-	10	50	b
Cleethorpes	-	0.01	10	50	c	Newcastle	X				
Colwyn Bay	-	-	10	50	c	Norwich	4.1	-	11	52	b
Cromer	2.4	-	10	50	b	Oxford	X				
Dunbar	X					Penzance	X	0.52	15	59	r
Eastbourne	-	0.08	12	54	r	Poole	-	0.23	18	64	r
Edinburgh	X					Ross-on-Wye	-	0.06	1	34	r
Eskdalemuir	3.1	0.01	9	48	b	Saunton Snd	0.4	0.02	13	55	du
Exmouth	-	0.24	14	57	r	Scarboro'	-	-	9	48	c
Falmouth	-	0.36	15	59	r	Skegness	1.8	-	10	50	c
Fishguard	-	0.07	11	52	r	Southend	1.8	0.05	10	50	du
Folkestone	0.3	0.07	11	52	r	Southsea	1.2	0.19	13	55	r
Glasgow	1.2	0.01	11	52	b	Stornoway	-	0.01	11	52	du
Guernsey	-	0.07	16	61	c	Swanage	-	0.13	13	55	r
Hastings	-	0.13	11	52	r	Teignmouth	-	0.20	15	59	r
Hayling I	X	0.19	12	54	r	Tenby	-	0.11	12	54	sh
Herne Bay	1.7	0.01	10	50	d	Tiree	0.2	0.01	10	50	r
Hove	0.8	0.08	11	52	d	Torquay	-	0.12	15	59	d
Isle of Man	X					Weymouth	-	0.20	14	57	r

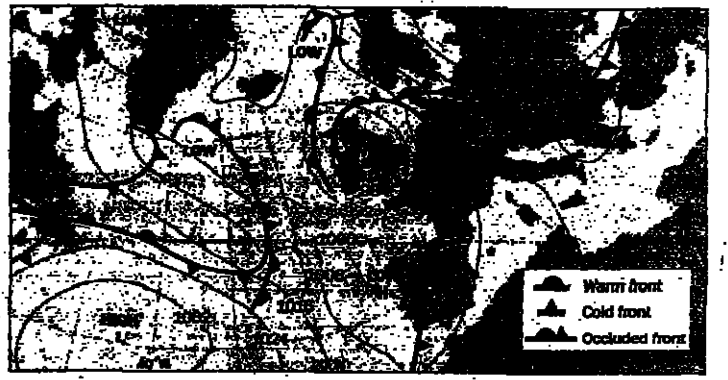
ABROAD

Ajaccio	21	70	s	C'phagn	3	37	s	Madrid	16	61	c	Riyadh	25	77	f
Akrotiri	21	70	f	Corfu	19	66	s	Majorca	18	64	d	Rome	20	68	b
Alex'dria	19	66	r	Dublin	11	52	c	Malaga	21	70	c	Salzburg	7	45	s
Algiers	26	79	f	Dubrovnik	17	63	s	Malta	21	70	b	S Fr'sco	19	66	s
Amst'dm	9	48	c	Faro	22	72	s	Melb'rne	14	57	f	Santiago	20	68	f
Athens	17	63	s	Florence	19	66	s	Mexico C	17	63	f	Seoul	16	61	s
Bahrain	29	84	f	Frankfurt	5	41	c	Miami	24	75	f	Sing'por	28	82	r
Bangkok	27	81	c	Funchal	23	73	s	Milan	18	64	fg	St'kholm	1	34	s
Barbados	30	86	f	Geneva	6	43	c	Montreal	12	54	s	Strasb'rg	1	34	fg
Barcelona	17	63	c	Gibraltar	23	73	f	Moscow	-1	30	h	Sydney	21	70	f
Beirut	23	73	f	Helsinki	-1	30	c	Munich	9	48	s	Tangier	23	73	f
Belgrade	9	48	s	Hong K	26	79	f	Nairobi	23	73	f	Tel Aviv	24	75	f
Berlin	6	43	s	Innsbrck	11	52	s	Naples	21	70	s	Tenerife	26	79	f
Bermuda	26	79	s	Istanbul	13	55	f	N Delhi	25	77	s	Tokyo	19	66	s
Biarritz	19	66	c	Jeddah	35	95	s	N York	18	64	s	Toronto	7	45	c
Borde'x	19	66	s	Jo'burg	27	81	f	Nice	18	64	s	Tunis	20	68	f
Brussels	8	46	s	Karachi	X			Oslo	4	39	s	Valencia	16	61	r
Budapest	10	50	c	L Palmas	26	79	s	Paris	10	50	s	Vanc'ver	11	52	r
B Aires	20	68	c	Le Touqt	9	48	s	Peking	18	64	s	Venice	13	55	fg
Cairo	26	79	f	Lisbon	19	66	r	Perth	36	97	s	Vienna	12	54	f
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Locarno	12	54	s	Prague	7	45	c	Warsaw	4	39	c
Chicago	3	37	f	L Angels	31	88	s	Reykjavik	4	39	r	Wash'ton	18	64	f
Ch'church	24	75	x	Luxembg	7	45	s	Rhodes	20	68	s	Wel'gton	19	66	x
Cologne	8	46	s	Luxor	29	84	s	Rio de J	30	86	f	Zurich	2	36	fg

Temperatures at midday local time on Monday X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: high L will remain slow moving; low S will slowly move north; low H will deepen and move northeast



[illegible]

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	04.21	7.0	16.43	6.9	Leith	05.21	5.2	17.38	5.1
Aberdeen	03.57	4.0	16.11	4.0	Liverpool	01.33	8.8	13.54	8.8
Avonmouth	09.45	12.2	22.05	11.9	Lowestoft	-	-	12.16	2.4
Belfast	01.27	3.4	13.42	3.4	Margate	02.20	4.7	14.42	4.6
Cardiff	09.31	11.3	21.51	11.0	Milford Haven	08.47	6.4	21.06	6.2
Devonport	08.16	5.2	20.33	5.0	Newquay	07.40	6.5	20.00	6.3
Dover	01.13	6.4	13.29	6.3	Oban	08.12	3.8	20.20	3.6
Dublin (N Wall)	02.12	3.8	14.27	3.9	Penzance	07.09	5.2	19.27	5.0
Falmouth	07.47	5.0	20.04	4.8	Portland	09.20	2.0	21.49	1.8
Greenock	02.57	3.3	15.24	3.5	Portsmouth	01.48	4.5	14.01	4.5
Harwich	02.17	3.9	14.39	3.8	Shoreham	01.27	5.8	13.44	5.6
Holyhead	00.42	5.2	13.08	5.3	Southampton	01.08	4.4	13.25	4.4
Hull (Albert D)	08.56	8.0	21.09	8.0	Swansea	08.49	8.8	21.09	8.5
Ilfracombe	08.32	8.5	20.51	8.2	Tees	06.14	5.0	18.33	5.0
King's Lynn	08.56	6.2	21.11	6.2	Walton-on-N	02.09	4.0	14.33	3.9

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey 16C (61F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 7C (46F); highest rainfall: Culdrose, Cornwall, 0.55in; highest sunshine: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 5.4hr.

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THE TIMES 2

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

Barclays sets time limit to agree BZW deal

By Richard Miles, Banking Correspondent

BARCLAYS has given Credit Suisse First Boston one week to strike a deal over the acquisition of large chunks of BZW, the investment banking arm it put up for sale at the beginning of October.

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, said last night that the bank had entered exclusive discussions with CSFB over its proposal to buy the UK and continental European equities arm, as well as the mergers and acquisitions and equities capital markets businesses of BZW.

Excluded from the proposal are BZW's businesses in Australasia and Asia Pacific, as well as the UK equities derivatives arm. Barclays will seek buyers for these businesses separately, though interest has already been expressed by some early bidders for BZW. Analysts were hesitant about putting a value on the proposal — Barclays has not stripped out the revenues for BZW's separate businesses. Earlier estimates for BZW as a whole ranged from £600 million to £700 million, but the businesses wanted by CSFB could be worth about £300 million.

Mr Taylor said the exclusivity agreement lasts for a week, and that the BZW business contained in CSFB's proposed deal accounted for a little over half of the division's revenues and just under half of its capital. He declined to put a price tag on the deal.

"What we tried to do with the sale process was to seek a bidder for the whole business, but listen to whatever offers there were. CSFB have decided they aren't prepared to proceed with Australasia and Asia at the moment. We have left out the derivatives for a simple reason: there would be a 100 per cent overlap," said Mr Taylor.

About 1,000 of BZW's 7,500 staff, mostly in the front office, will transfer to CSFB if the deal goes ahead. The fate of the back office is less clear, although Mr Taylor suggested that CSFB might outsource the support operation to Barclays pending further arrangements.

CSFB refused to comment last night, except to confirm that it had begun exclusive talks with Barclays. If an agreement can be reached, the Swiss-owned investment bank, which is strong in US equities, will use BZW as the platform for further expansion into European equities. However, it is unlikely that the BZW name will be kept.

Jonathan Davie, deputy chairman of BZW, expressed optimism about the prospects for the deal, even though some of his fellow executives had pinned their hopes on Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, the fast-growing US investment bank. DLJ dropped out of the running, along with Bankers Trust, at the weekend.

Mr Davie said: "It is a very good strategic fit. We hope we can put it together in a shape which will add value to our customers." He said he had begun informing the corporate and institutional clients of both banks. Staff will be told of the proposed deal this morning.

Interest rate worries surface

CONSUMER optimism appears to have peaked after hitting levels not seen since 1988, a survey published today shows (Alasdair Murray writes).

The quarterly Business Strategies Survey of consumer sentiment found that worries about rising interest rates and inflation are undermining optimism about the economy.

Bridget Rosewell, chairman of Business Strategies and a former member of the Treasury Panel of Indpendent Advisers, said the survey showed that the Bank of England should resist making further rate rises. "The message is that interest rates should be left unchanged. There is no sign of an explosion in consumer spending, house prices are stabilising and manufacturing remains weak," she said.

The Bank's monetary policy committee begins its monthly meeting today. Economists believe that recent market turbulence will persuade the committee to leave rates unchanged, though a rise this year is still on the cards.

Monetary data out yesterday showed consumer credit growth fell from £959 million in August to £733 million in September. But mortgage lending picked up, with housing transactions at a five-year high.

THE French Government has proposed that Jean-Claude Trichet, Governor of the Banque de France, should head the European Central Bank. The move is expected to bring a political row with Germany which is backing Wim Duisenberg, former head of the Dutch central bank and current chief of the European Monetary Institute, the embryo ECB. The ECB chief and six-member directorate will be appointed on May 2.

Commentary, page 29

Sir Richard Greenbury says M&S will not take on the food stores head-on, but will maintain its balance of clothing, food and household products

M&S expansion to create 5,000 jobs

By [redacted]

MARKS & SPENCER is to create 5,000 jobs over the next three years as part of its £2.1 billion expansion programme to consolidate its position as Britain's largest retailer.

The company said yesterday that it intends to increase retail space by 33 per cent as it rolls out three of its most successful formats: town centre department stores, edge-of-town superstores and smaller food stores.

The drive will leave the retailer with 18 million sq ft of shopping space, a UK workforce of 60,000 and annual profits approaching £1.4 billion by the turn of the century. Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman, said that the company will maintain its product balance of clothing, food and household products without targeting any one area for particular expansion. He dismissed suggestions that it is planning an offensive against the food store chains as "nonsense".

He said: "We'd want our head examined to take on the supermarkets. We're very clear what our food focus is and it's not an attempt to take on the food companies head-on. We know our strengths."

His comments came as the company returned pre-tax profits of £452 million (£430 million) for the six months to September 27. Its overseas stores, which count for 16 per cent of group sales, saw operating profits decline 17.2 per cent, after a £7.2 million reverse from the strength of sterling.

Although the results came in below City expectations, prompting analysts to trim year-end forecasts down £30 million to £1.17 billion, the shares eased only 10p to 600p.

One analyst said: "They are obviously softening the market up for a difficult 18 months, and for a difficult period of growing. The cost of expansion, even without sterling, is still rather more than people expected and this leaves a lot of questions for a company whose shares are on a ratio of 21 times earnings." However, others said M&S shares were one of the few places of refuge for institutions looking for solid UK growth stocks, making them unlikely to lose their rating.

The company will spend £800 million on capital expenditure this year, and plans to spend about £650 million the two years afterwards.

Sir Richard said that the company is now looking at expanding into Japan, now that property prices are a third of the price they were last time it considered opening there.

Earnings rose to 11.1p (10.5p) a share. An interim dividend of 3.6p (3.3p) is due to be paid on January 16.

Commentary, page 30

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4897.4	(-9.0)
Yield	3.30%	
FTSE All share	2316.92	(-2.06)
Nikkei	16500.10	(+41.16)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7680.89	(-13.50)*
S&P Composite	937.22	(-1.77)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5[illegible]%*	(5[illegible]%)
Long Bond	101[illegible]*	(102[illegible])
Yield	6.20%*	(6.21%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7[illegible]%	(7[illegible]%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	118½	(118[illegible])

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6835*	(1.6760)
London:		
$	1.6856	(1.6770)
DM	2.9010	(2.9115)
FFr	9.7164	(9.7400)
SFr	2.3680	(2.3733)
Yen	205.40	(202.56)
£ Index	102.9	(102.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7250*	(1.7370)
FFr	5.7770*	(5.8180)
SFr	1.4075*	(1.4135)
Yen	121.75*	(121.43)
$ Index	104.5	(104.5)

Tokyo close Yen 121.66

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan)	$19.90	($19.95)

GOLD

London close	$315.55	($314.25)

* denotes midday trading price

Thames lower

Shares in Thames Water fell 37p to 873p yesterday after the company said it would step up investment to tackle leakage. Interim profits rose 7 per cent to £202 million.
Page 28

Eastern promise

BP will continue to invest heavily in the Far East in spite of recent market turmoil in the region, the oil company said yesterday. Up to $400 million will be spent in South East Asia this year.
Page 29; Tempus, page 30

Revenue drops charges against ex-Nissan chief

By Jason Nissé

AFTER six years of investigation, involving up to 135 inspectors incurring millions of pounds of costs, the Inland Revenue yesterday dropped its prosecution of Octav Botnar, the former chairman of Nissan UK, for an alleged £219 million tax fraud.

The Revenue's lawyers told Worthing magistates that they had been advised by medical experts that Mr Botnar, 84, was too ill to stand trial and could die before a trial could be completed.

The move comes ahead of a Court of Appeal ruling, expected this week, as to whether Mr Botnar has to pay £68 million to the Revenue which it is claiming as unpaid tax on his charitable trusts. Last year Nissan UK paid the Revenue £59 million to settle tax claims totalling over £200 million.

Two former directors of Nissan UK, Michael Hunt and Frank Shannon, were jailed four years ago after being found guilty of tax fraud.

Yesterday Mr Botnar, who has been living in Switzerland since the Revenue launched its investigation in 1991, rejected the Revenue's explanation for dropping the case, saying charges should never have been brought against him.

"The Revenue has known for four and a half years of the perilous state of my health, following surgery for the removal of my entire stomach in 1993," said Mr Botnar. "We had asked for the warrants to be cancelled on the grounds that the Revenue applied for them and maintained them for ulterior motives, and had no intention whatsover of bringing me to trial."

The Revenue investigation into Nissan UK, which had been the sole importer of Nissan cars for much of the 1970s and 1980s, was launched in June 1991 with a massive raid on the company's Worthing headquarters and the homes of senior executives involving 135 Revenue officers.

Pizza executive buys 845 pubs

By Dominic Walsh

HUGH OSMOND is expected to step down as an executive director of PizzaExpress to concentrate on running Grovebase Properties, his new company, which yesterday announced the purchase of 845 tenanted pubs from Nomura International.

The pubs are part of the 1,720-strong Phoenix Inns portfolio acquired from Inntrepreneur in January 1995 for £249 million. Although yesterday's sale price was not disclosed, sources suggested a figure of between £150 million and £200 million.

Mr Osmond, who with Luke Johnson turned PizzaExpress into one of the stock market's star performers, said he was investing "a few million quid" of his own money in the new venture, and would be devoting much of his time to it. The long-term aim is a flotation. He said: "It wouldn't be fair to pretend I can be fully executive of both." Mr Osmond, who recently sold PizzaExpress shares worth more than £1 million, is expected to become a non-executive director.

Wellington Investment, Grovebase's parent company, is controlled by a small number of private investors, including Luke Johnson. Funding for the acquisition was arranged by Morgan Stanley. Nomura will be left with 275 pubs from the original Phoenix package, having already sold 600 pubs piecemeal. Last month it paid £1.2 billion for a further 4,300 pubs from the original Inntrepreneur estate.

Aon signals bid in the pipeline

By Marianne Curphey, Insurance Correspondent

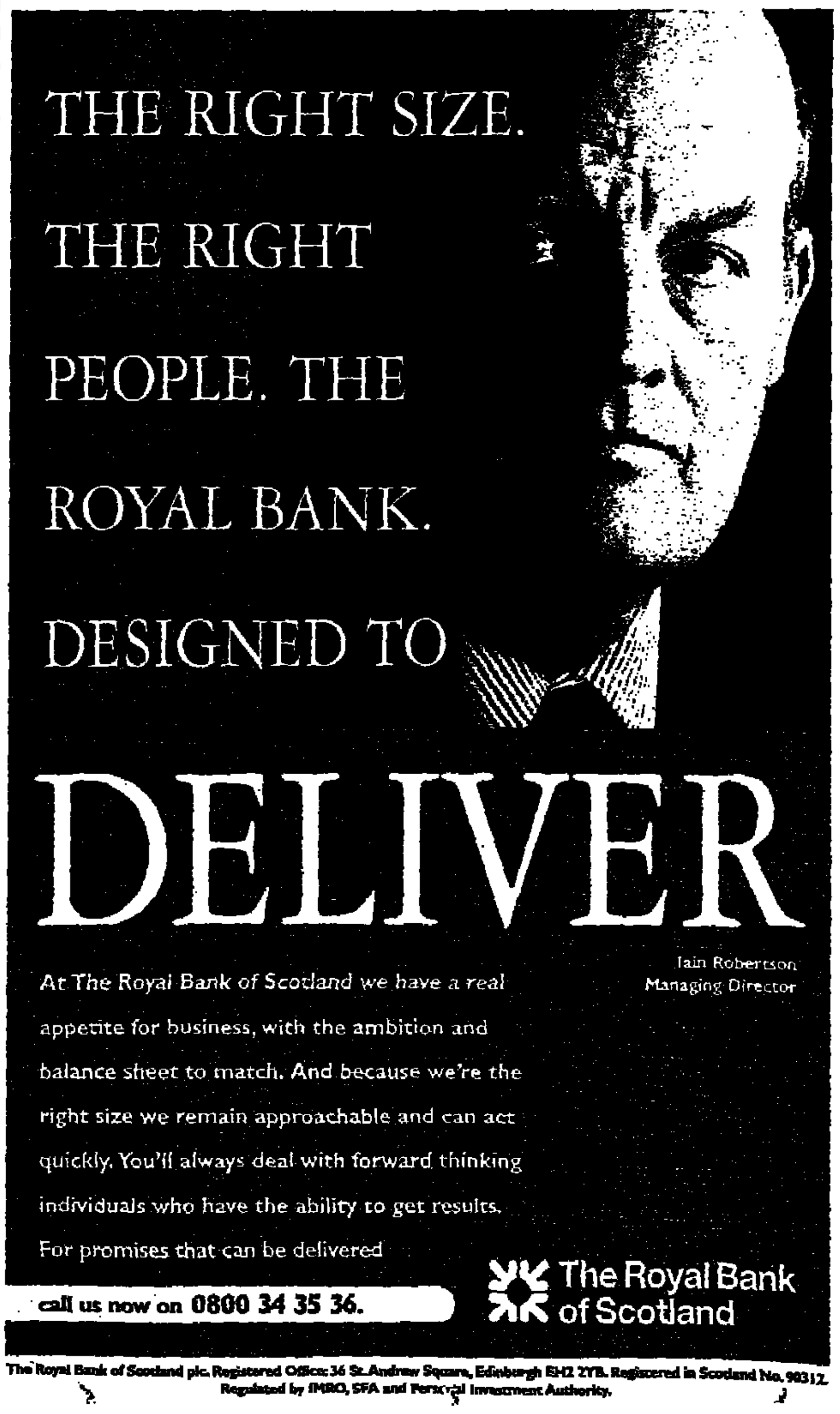
AON, the rapidly expanding international insurance broker, yesterday signalled a likely bid for either Willis Corroon or Sedgwick, the last two heavyweight insurance brokers in the UK.

Industry sources are also expecting a move by Marsh & McLennan, the huge US broker. Both groups have made no secret of their wish for a big acquisition in the UK. Willis Corroon, which unveiled lacklustre third-quarter trading figures yesterday, is expected to be the first victim. Sources suggested that Marsh & McLennan was likely to launch a bid, although analysts cited Aon as a more aggressive suitor. A spokesman for Aon said yesterday that the company was was looking for "further acquisitions". Willis is currently capitalised at £524 million.

Although Willis insisted yesterday that it intended to remain independent, its board is under increasing pressure from institutional investors to deliver better returns. Over the past 12 months the company's share price has underperformed the FTSE All-share index by 16 per cent.

Willis blamed intense competition and the strong pound for a fall in nine-month pre-tax profit by 20 per cent to £68 million (£85.5 million).

Aon unveiled third-quarter results yesterday which showed a 39 per cent rise in profits to $178 million (£106 million).



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Thames to step up action on leaks

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THAMES WATER yesterday pledged more action on leakage but started to square up early for a potential clash with the regulator over the next pricing review.

Thames, which is forced to report regularly to Ofwat over leakages, said it would meet new targets for 1998-99, though it said that leakage levels demanded dipped slightly below what it thought was economic. The company is being asked to cut back leakage to 781 million litres a day from its present target of 1.08 billion. Bill Alexander, chief executive, said an economic level would be about 800 million litres a day.

Ofwat has changed the way in which it gauges leakage. It does not measure leakage rates, making improvements and comparisons between companies less easy to gauge. When it last compiled such figures, for 1995-96, Thames had the worst record at 38 per cent. The company declined to say what its rate was now but said there had been a 10 per cent improvement in the six months to September 30.

Thames fired a warning at Ian Byatt, the regulator, over his plans for a one-off price cut in the review set for 2000. While the company said it did not object to a one-off price cut — which would be set with a running inflation-linked control — it said it would not accept a cut at the level currently being discussed. Mr Byatt has not set a figure yet for the one-off cut, but it is thought that he could go for a cut of about 10 per cent.

Shares in Thames fell 37p to 873p yesterday as the company announced interim pre-tax profits of £202 million — a 7 per cent rise on a year earlier. One analyst blamed profit-taking after a strong run, but there are also fears in the City over the amount Thames will have to spend on getting to grips with leakage. There had also been some expectation that the rise in the interim dividend might have been larger than the 11.6 per cent that Thames delivered. Thames will pay 12.5p a share on February 3.

The company could be poised to inject about £20 million back into the business as its spending on the restructuring programme outlined in 1995-96 runs short of the £95 million that it earmarked for the exercise. It will decide by the end of the year.

Westbury confident of demand

WESTBURY, the housebuilder, said demand for new homes remained strong despite successive increases in interest rates. Yesterday the company reported a rise in first-half pre-tax profits to £13.5 million from £9.7 million, with a 10 per cent increase in the average selling price to £83,600 during the period.

Geoffrey Maddrell, chairman, said: "Demand for new homes remains strong, with affordability at an historically high level despite interest rate rises."

Earnings rose to 10.3p (7.4p) a share; the dividend for the six months to August 31, 10 per cent up to 2.365p, is due on January 5.

WILL WALKER

Icing on the cake: Henry Roberts, chief executive of Northumbrian Fine Foods, the manufacturer of biscuits and cakes, served up a 24 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £509,000 for the six months to September 30. Earnings were 0.83p a share (0.67p) and the interim dividend is doubled to 0.1p a share. The company said the second half had started with a substantial increase in Christmas orders. Despite a competitive market further growth in the full year is expected.

Beckett wins investment role

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

TONY BLAIR has backed Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, in a Whitehall row over which government department carries out a key role in channelling inward investment in Britain from foreign-owned companies. The Prime Minister's decision marks a significant victory for Mrs Beckett in a protracted inter-departmental Whitehall turf war.

Supporters of John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, were keen on his Department of Transport, Environment and the Regions taking on the responsibility for guiding key inward investor companies from the US, Japan, Korea, Germany and elsewhere towards setting up in particular regions of Britain.

Mr Prescott will publish a White Paper on regional development next month proposing the establishment of new Regional Development Agencies and his supporters wanted the new regional bodies to take over responsibility for directing inward investment.

But the Prime Minister has decided that responsibility should remain with the Industrial Development Unit in Mrs Beckett's Department of Trade and Industry — and that the role of the IDU on inward investment should be enhanced.

Under present arrangements, foreign companies work initially through the IDU, which puts them in touch with local agencies, including development bodies.

But under Mrs Beckett's new proposals representatives from all regions will now have a role inside the IDU, which will in effect play a key part in deciding to which area of the UK an investment should go.

The move was announced yesterday to the Trade and Industry Select Committee.

Set-top decoder bids invited

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

DIGITAL terrestrial television (DTT) in the UK moved a step closer yesterday as manufacturers were invited to tender for contracts to supply set-top box decoders and at the same time industry-wide specifications were agreed for the technology.

The developments should help to ensure that at least 30 DTT channels can be launched by the end of next year — channels that can be received with a conventional television aerial and without the need for satellite dishes or cable connections. British Digital Broadcasting, the main commercial DTT operator, yesterday called on manufacturers to tender for a "substantial" initial order for the decoders needed to receive the pictures. The initial order is likely to be worth about £250 million in total.

Bupa wants £3bn of VAT spent on NHS

THE biggest medical insurer in the UK has called on the Government to use £3 billion of revenue raised via VAT to help to fund the National Health Service. Bupa said yesterday that ringfencing a proportion of VAT revenues and investing it in hospitals and healthcare would be the equivalent of spending an extra 0.5 per cent of gross domestic product on the NHS.

The call came from Sir Terence English, chief medical adviser to Bupa and a former President of the Royal College of Surgeons, at a debate on public healthcare in London. Sir Terence added: "An increase in funding of the NHS should be accompanied by a policy of educating the public as to what might reasonably be expected from it. No country will ever be rich enough to afford all that medical science is capable of providing."

His call came as health insurers revealed that demand for private medical insurance policies has been flat since the general election, and a number of older policyholders had not renewed their insurance after the removal of tax relief on medical insurance for the over 60s. The tax relief, which was scrapped in Gordon Brown's first Budget, was costing the Exchequer £140 million a year.

Abbey jobs for Belfast

ABBEY NATIONAL is to create 438 jobs in Belfast by investing £5.4 million in a new software centre and the development of its telephone centre in the Province. The Industrial Development Corporation is putting up £3.3 million towards the cost of the two projects by offering "selective financial assistance" to Abbey National. The bank intends to spend £1.3 million to set up a financial software and development centre, providing about 100 jobs, mostly at the graduate level.

Rolls wins £127m order

ROLLS-ROYCE is to supply Trent engines for up to 19 Air Canada aircraft in a deal worth about US$213 million (£127 million) initially. The engines will power the nine Airbus A330-300 airliners that Air Canada agreed to buy in August. The airline has options on ten more of the aircraft. If it takes up these options, the engine deal could be worth $450 million to Rolls-Royce, which beat off competition from GE and Pratt & Whitney to secure the contract. Air Canada is the fourteenth Trent engine customer.

Powerscreen ahead

POWERSCREEN INTERNATIONAL, the engineer, has reported a 16 per cent rise in its pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30, as sales growth in North America, the UK and the Irish Republic made up for a fall in turnover in continental Europe. The profits of £23.6 million included about £500,000 contributed by the Doggett business, bought earlier this year. Turnover was up 13 per cent, to £17 million. An interim dividend of 3.1p (2.8p) is to be paid on February 12.

Hays pays £17m for DEI

HAYS, the business services group, has acquired DEI Group, a document management company serving government departments and the corporate sector, for £17 million. DEI earned operating profits of £1.4 million in 1996. At the year end net assets were £1.7 million and net debt was £1.3 million. Hays, which has its headquarters in Guildford, Surrey, has spent more than £100 million on acquisitions in recent weeks, including the £65 million purchase of ICS, a mailing business.

Cookson sells Anzon

COOKSON GROUP, the UK industrial materials company, has sold its US antimony products business to Great Lakes Chemical Corp for $90 million (£53.45 million). Anzon, which was part of Cookson's plastics division, makes fire retardant additives for the plastics industry and has operations in the UK, US, Mexico and South Africa. Cookson said the disposal makes a pre-tax profit of £20 million. The company's gearing will fall to about 25 per cent. The sale takes Cookson out of the plastic additives business altogether.

Sales surge for Adidas

ADIDAS, the German manufacturer of sports goods, lifted net profits 38.7 per cent to DM449 million (£155 million) in the first nine months of 1997, helped by a strong advance in sales in North America. Group sales rose 42.3 per cent to DM5.284 billion. Sales in North America rose 58 per cent to DM1.258 billion. Sales in Europe, which remains the company's principal market, rose 31 per cent to DM3.359 billion. In September, Adidas unveiled plans to buy Salomon, the French winter sports equipment group.

Sims rises after shake-up

SIMS FOOD GROUP, the supplier of meat products to the food services sector that is emerging from a period of extensive restructuring, lifted pre-tax profits to £1.04 million from £710,000 in the six months to September. Turnover from continuing operations rose to £22.7 million from £18.1 million. After the disposal of Sims's retail business borrowings were reduced by £12.8 million in the first half. Earnings were 2.1p (1.7p) a share. There is again no interim dividend but a final dividend may be paid.

Meyer expands tool hire

MEYER INTERNATIONAL is to acquire 22 tool hire and catering equipment hire branches from Torex to further expand the specialist tool hire business of its Jewson subsidiary in the South West of England. The Torex branches had 1996 sales of £6.1 million and earned profits of £865,000 before interest and tax. Last month Meyer announced the £318 million acquisition of the Harcros chain of builders' merchants from Harrisons & Crosfield, to be part-funded through a £111.7 million rights issue.

Hygiene test unveiled as Celsis cuts losses

By Paul Durman

CELSIS INTERNATIONAL, the contamination testing company that is close to profit, has developed a simple, colour-based test for checking hygiene standards in restaurants and the home.

Celsis is refusing to discuss the nature of sureWIPE, its product, while it awaits patent protection. However, Arthur Holden, chief executive, believes sureWIPE offers Celsis exciting opportunities to develop new markets in restaurants and the home.

He said the product is cheaper, much easier to use and offers equal performance to systemSURE, the company's portable monitor. Celsis hopes to launch sureWIPE next summer, extending it to consumer markets in 1999.

Celsis said it was "moving rapidly towards profitability". Results for the six months to September 30 showed pre-tax losses reduced from £2.7 million to £850,000 on sales 70 per cent higher at £7 million. About half the £2.9 million growth in turnover came from last year's acquisition of Lumac, a rival.

The company has sold more than 3,150 of its instruments and expects substantial sales growth of the reagents needed to make them work. Reagents offer higher margins and nine million a year are sold.

NatWest to close down Hong Kong operation

Richard Miles
Banking Correspondent

NATWEST embarked on an overhaul of its investment banking operation yesterday by announcing the closure of its debt business in Hong Kong with the loss of 55 jobs.

A spokeswoman for NatWest Markets said the remaining 50 employees based in Hong Kong would be transferred to Tokyo or Singapore, where its global debt business will be relocated over the next three to five months.

"Our clients have been informed of the restructuring which will allow us to focus our presence outside Hong Kong," she said, adding that it was not possible to put a figure on the cost of the reorganisation.

NatWest Markets' withdrawal of its debt business from Hong Kong — it retains an equities business there — is the result of an ongoing strategic review begun in April when Chip Kruger took the helm at the investment bank.

Last week NatWest snubbed an unsolicited offer for its equities business from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. The bank said DMG's offer, reportedly £150 million for a business valued by City analysts at £300 million, was not in the interests of shareholders.

Cadbury cuts US jobs in new cola-war manoeuvre

From Oliver August in New York

CADBURY SCHWEPPES is restructuring its US operations to protect ambitious targets for profit growth and to win back market share from Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

Dr Pepper/Seven Up Inc, Cadbury's biggest operating division, is shedding more than 100 head office staff to cut costs. The 10 per cent cut will not affect the marketing and advertising departments, which are at the heart of the cola wars, a spokesman said.

Sales of Dr Pepper, Seven Up, Schweppes and other Cadbury brands have been slipping this year, while Coke's Sprite, a direct competitor, has increased its market share.

The success of the head office cost-cutting and a Seven Up relaunch may determine the fate of John Sunderland, the Cadbury chief executive. He has promised the City to increase profits by at least 10 per cent a year.

Cadbury acquired Dr Pepper/Seven Up two years ago for £1.6 billion in the hope of rivalling Coke and Pepsi in their home market. However, it has failed to exceed a market share of 15 per cent, with sales growth of only 1 per cent in a market growing at 3 per cent.

The average American drinks 900 cans of soft drink a year, 43 per cent of them Coke brands and 31 per cent Pepsi brands. Rivalry between drinks companies has intensified recently. To regain the initiative in the cola war, Cadbury has relaunched its Seven Up drink after making its taste closer to Coke's sourer and more successful Sprite.

Cadbury, unlike Coke and Pepsi, owns no US bottling plants. Analysts believe that it will be forced to buy bottlers.

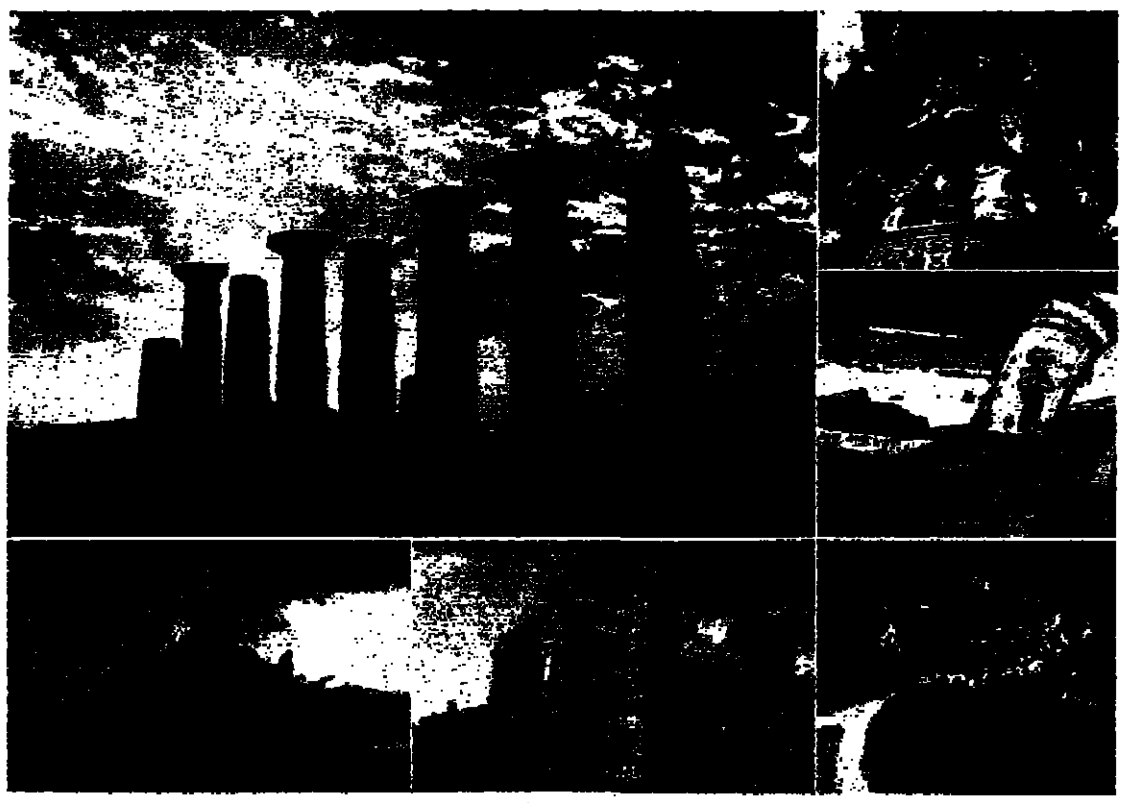
TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.49	2.31
Austria Sch	21.41	19.75
Belgium Fr	63.03	58.07
Canada $	2.489	2.301
Cyprus Cyp£	0.897	0.825
Denmark Kr	11.63	10.74
Finland Mkk	9.27	8.52
France Fr	10.17	9.39
Germany Dm	3.08	2.82
Greece Dr	482	443
Hong Kong $	13.85	12.65
Iceland	128	108
Ireland Pt	1.17	1.08
Israel Shk	6.28	5.61
Italy Lira	3019	2782
Japan Yen	220.13	202.60
Malta	0.678	0.619
Netherlds Gld	3.461	3.165
New Zealand $	2.85	2.61
Norway Kr	12.44	11.50
Portugal Esc	308.53	286.50
S Africa Rd	8.83	7.57
Spain Pta	258.28	237.50
Sweden Kr	13.47	12.37
Switzerland Fr	2.52	2.30
Turkey Lira	317776	297898
USA $	1.790	1.647

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Ravaglia & Wilander

SICILY
ISLAND IN A SEA OF LIGHT.



Look a little closer at Sicily and you'll see there's a secret side waiting to be discovered. Unexpected riches abound. A fascinating cultural heritage, a remarkable history, a wealth of artistic treasures. And a unique character created by the constant influence of the surrounding Mediterranean Sea. Such diversity exists in Sicily. Vibrant contrasts. Hidden facets, to which the changing seasons add even more variety, more light, more shade. Sicily is many things, but remains one special place in a world of its own.

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St Michael heads for promised land

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Sir Richard Greenbury's contempt for teenage scribblers, both in the media and the City, always adds a frisson of excitement to the publication of Marks & Spencer's figures. Yesterday, he was in cracking form, lambasting those who did not fully appreciate the M&S achievements or might not have fully understood the group's ambitions.

The scale of neither should be under-estimated. Sir Richard's tendency to interpret any criticism of the company as a personal slight tends to encourage a touch of bear-baiting but the fact is that his reign at M&S has been remarkable. Profits have doubled since he took over as chairman six years ago and now, in terms of its return on sales, the company beats any international rival.

Retaining that position in a hugely competitive market is tough, but M&S is succeeding. If initial reaction to its 5 per cent profits growth was disappointment, it was more due to unreasonable expectations than a rational appreciation of how the company had coped. And if Sir Richard had hoped for a whoop of surprise and a boost to the shares because of his expansion programme, then he would have done better to have kept them under wraps for a great unveiling rather than let them seep into the weekend press.

Nonetheless, the plans do deserve applause. They mean that three years from now, a quarter of the group's floorspace will be outside the UK, well on the way to qualifying the company for the fashionable designation of being a "global" operator. And while M&S is adamant that it has plenty of scope to grow in the UK, the pace of growth can only be maintained into the future if new markets are broached.

That may mean new formats as well as new territories. Do not forget that M&S discovered financial services long before the supermarkets did. It took its time, but can now book a £100 million profit from that sector. The new catalogue business will also develop gradually, but has long-term potential to bring in new customers.

Sir Richard intends to see that potential realised. Now 61, he is intent on staying firmly at the helm of M&S until he reaches 65. Those City scribblers who have pondered on who will succeed him are apparently to be left to ponder, for he sees no need to clarify the position yetawhile.

Suggestions that he might become a non-executive chairman always seemed to defy the nature of the beast, so there is no need for the appointment of a chief executive to work alongside him. Sir Richard's decision to stay in office until he is 65 seems to militate against Keith Oates, his current deputy, stepping into his shoes.

The competition now must concentrate on the younger generation of M&S directors. Insiders say that Peter Salsbury, the joint managing director whose raft of responsibilities range from property to personnel, may eventually be given St Michael's blessing.

It's politics, stupid

If the British Government was ever in any doubt about the intensely political nature of the EMU endgame, then yesterday's decision by the French Government to put forward its own candidate for Governor of the European Central Bank should shatter any illusions. Gordon Brown talked only last week about taking a "constructive" approach to a single currency and making vital decisions on the basis of sound economics. The French have duly responded with a strong dose of destructive real-politik.

The French Government is desperate to derail the campaign to install Wim Duisenberg, current head of the European Monetary Institute, as the first Central Bank Governor. Mr Duisenberg has the virtues of being popular and respected in the markets and is acceptable to the vast majority of European Union members. But as far as the French are concerned he is too close to the Germans for comfort — after all, anyone who wins the German-based "European Banker of the year award" must be suspect.

After giving in to the Germans over the siting of the ECB in Frankfurt and the establishment of a stability pact, Gallic pride cannot countenance any further loss of influence. The French are frightened that under Mr Duisenberg, the ECB will become a model of the Bundesbank under German domination.

France's chosen candidate, Jean-Claude Trichet, Governor of the Bank of France, is also well respected in the markets but is highly unlikely to prove acceptable to German public opinion. The suspicion is that M Trichet, who is no great ally of President Chirac, is merely a decoy candidate designed to stop Duisenberg. When deadlock ensues, the French will suddenly pull a compromise candidate out of their chapeau. Step forward Michel Camdesssus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, who has a vast wealth of experience running major international organisations and whose stock is high due to the IMF's very public involvement in South East Asia. In French eyes, he also has the ultimate virtue of being French.

Alternatively, the French may be trying to extract some other policy concession from the Germans. France has made no secret of its desire to see greater political control over the ECB. Whatever the ultimate plan, it is going to be a tough and exciting battle before a final decision on the ECB Governor is reached next May. But Gordon Brown should take note — economics it isn't.

Eddie can afford to be steady

Today was marked down in money-watchers' diaries three months ago as a big meeting of the Bank of England's new monetary committee. In August, the Bank put base rates up a quarter point to 7 per cent but added riders. It reckoned this last adjustment of a series was enough to get inflation back on target on the facts at the time.

Barring earthquakes, the Bank also intended to leave rates unchanged until it pored over the economic tea-leaves again. That meant the next quarterly *Inflation Report*, which should now be at hand. All too often, however, decisive moments marked up by the markets in advance turn out to have no great significance when they arrive. This looks to be a case in point.

In three months, the exchange rate has dipped 3 per cent but buoyancy has left the stock market even if the FTSE 100 index is little changed. Money is still expanding too fast but retail sales have stalled, maybe due to the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, maybe not. Interest rates are up a shade in Germany, whose policies the Bank seeks to parallel, but not yet in the US.

Three months of new information has not, on the whole, added much to the wisdom of those responsible for setting UK interest rates. So the sensible course seems to be to take no action after the meeting finishes tomorrow. One thing is certain: any change would surprise the financial markets. That might bring out the devil in some committee members, but surely not in steady Eddie George.

Swiss timing

JUST a week more nail biting to go down at Canary Wharf then. Well, not quite. In macho mood, Barclays has now set a timetable for CSFB to complete the BZW deal. But what happens if, having looked a little more closely, CSFB decides that, perhaps, it is not that keen after all? All over the City, bankers are gloating over the predicament that Barclays finds itself in, but they are silent on what the bank should do if the CSFB deal fails.

Far East crisis fails to disrupt BP's strategy

By Carl Mortished

BRITISH PETROLEUM is to continue to invest heavily in the Far East in spite of recent market turmoil in the region, the oil company said yesterday as it unveiled an 11 per cent rise in third-quarter profits.

The company will spend up to $400 million in South-East Asia this year and has plans to expand a polyethylene plant in Indonesia, in spite of that country's financial crisis.

BP has petrochemicals interests in China, Malaysia and Korea. John Browne, chief executive, said that the company's Far East interests were secure. "Our present reading is that the stock market turmoil will not affect demand," he said.

BP's third-quarter replacement cost profit came in near the top end of expectations at £691 million (£650 million) thanks to a strong performance from the downstream chemicals and refining and marketing businesses. Mr Browne said that BP had already exceeded its target of $300 million in performance improvements for the year, with a $450 million gain in hand. BP expects to have achieved, by the end of the year, more than $1 billion of its $1.5 billion programme of performance enhancements, and Mr Browne promised that new targets would be set in the spring.

John Browne, chief executive, saw BP lift profits 11 per cent

BP's upstream oil and gas business suffered from a fall in oil production, leaving third-quarter exploration and production profits down from £761 million to £674 million. Effects of a 3 per cent decline in oil output and a $2 fall in the oil price were only partly offset by higher gas production. Delay in bringing on stream the Foinaven field, west of the Shetlands, has cost BP some 40,000 barrels per day of lost production.

Mr Browne said that BP would, over the next 12 months, bring on stream ten oil and gas fields, capable of boosting production by 400,000 barrels of oil and gas equivalent per day. He said that capital expenditure was rising and would increase debt from the current $6 billion to nearer $7 billion. "Our view is that competition is on the march everywhere," he said.

BP's refining and marketing result was up 82 per cent on the previous year to £265 million for the quarter, with significant gains from the BP/Mobil joint venture and higher refining margins in the US. Mr Browne predicted that BP would achieve post-tax gains of $200 million from the joint venture by the end of the year. Overall volumes were up 10 per cent worldwide, but BP still cannot sell the Lavera refinery in France. The company expects the French strikes to affect deliveries by the end of the week.

Chemicals profits rose from £130 million to £137 million because of higher volumes; capacity additions helped to boost production 11 per cent.

The quarterly dividend is maintained at 5.5p per share.

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Researcher runs TV test in Canada

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

TAYLOR NELSON AGB, the UK's largest market research group, is returning to the North American television rating measuring market a decade after the first effort by the old AGB business ended in financial disaster.

The UK company has been in talks with NBC, the US network company, which is interested in seeing competition developing to A C Neilsen, the dominant US television ratings operator.

This time, a move into North America is being made cautiously with a pilot scheme in the Vancouver area. Taylor Nelson is urging NBC to extend this to Seattle, across the US border, which is served by common broadcasting stations.

Brokers bypass volatile Sets

By Richard Miles, Banking Correspondent

CITY brokers are bypassing Sets, the Stock Exchange's new order-driven share trading system, in favour of conventional trading over the telephone.

Amid extreme volatility in the market, brokers are using Sets for less than 40 per cent of trades in FTSE 100 shares. On Monday that figure fell to just 33 per cent.

Brokers have been deterred in part from using Sets because of a series of technical difficulties, such as unusually wide spreads on share prices, particularly at the opening of trade, and low liquidity.

A Stock Exchange spokeswoman, however, said it was happy with the level of trades going through the order book. She said the exchange never expected to clinch 100 per cent of business, but declined to put a figure on its target ceiling.

Yesterday the exchange lifted the threshold for an automatic ten-minute suspension of a share from a 10 per cent difference in bid and offer prices to 20 per cent. It said the change had been made "in the light of experience".

Traders said the jury was still out on Sets, particularly given the volatility of markets. Martin Lupton, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson's equities division, said: "It's only been working for two-and-a-half weeks so it's too early to call. Give it three months, then see if the spreads are still wide."

David Smith, co-head of equities trading at Merrill Lynch, said wide spreads in the lower reaches of the FTSE 100 were a fair reflection of the way business has always been done in these stocks. "The yellow strip was a bit of an illusion," he said.

Tradepoint deals soar to £361.9m

By Adam Jones

MONTHLY trading figures released by Tradepoint, the electronic market set up to do battle with the London Stock Exchange, suggest a significant increase in the number of share trades in October.

The total traded value claimed by the company soared from £98.8 million to £361.9 million, it was announced yesterday.

However, a Tradepoint spokeswoman said the figure includes reports of trades through interdealer brokers, who act as middlemen between market-makers.

These bring in substantially less revenue since the loss-making Tradepoint cut charges on October 20.

The spokeswoman would not say how many there were in October but they are likely to have grown significantly in number.

Real-life lessons on the hard sell

By Chris Ayres

HARD-UP students are being targeted by Betterware, the door-to-door housewares retailer, to become part-time distributors, a job traditionally associated with housewives and pensioners.

The company, which is launching a major recruitment drive on university campuses, says low levels of unemployment have made recruitment difficult, and that students struggling to make ends meetare ideal candidates.

Peter Hartley, Betterware's managing director, said: "Students want to earn money during term time and will work for two to three hours a day, earning £40 to £50 a week. Obviously they also have to do the odd bit of study."

Pre-tax profits fell 17.4 per cent in the 28 weeks to September 13, from £6.6 million to £5.5 million, mainly because of a £1.2 million VAT adjustment. Turnover rose slightly from £32 million to £33.8 million, while earnings per share fell from 4.2p to 3.5p. An interim dividend of 1.05p (1p) will be paid on January 5.

Betterware said it would continue to develop joint ventures with Avon, the door-to-door beauty products retailer, especially in the Far East and Eastern Europe. It shrugged off the threat of Internet shopping as a problem for at least five years.

Betterware attributed a disappointing performance on customers objecting to catalogues immediately after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Braas family close to a bid for RBB

By Paul Durman

THE minority shareholders in Redland Braas Building are close to making an offer for the roofing business, Lehman Brothers, their advisers, said last night.

RBB holds the key to the fate of Redland, the building materials company that is struggling to defeat a £1.67 billion offer from Lafarge, the French cement and concrete group. Helga Bruhn-Braas, the Braas family's representative on Redland's board, resigned yesterday to concentrate on preparing the bid for RBB.

Kyril Saxe-Coburg at Lehman Brothers said: "It's imminent. There are still a few moving parts. We are obviously spending 24 hours a day on this to make sure we get there."

City estimates have suggested Redland's 56.5 per cent stake in RBB is worth about £800 million. Mr Saxe-Coburg said the Braas family, which still owns 31.5 per cent of RBB, will make its offer jointly with Schwenk and Dyckerhof, the two German cement companies that own the remaining 12 per cent of RBB's shares.

Rudolph Agnew, Redland chairman, is willing to sell any or all of the company's businesses to extract a better deal for shareholders.

Mrs Bruhn-Braas's conflict of interest prevented her from signing Redland's defence document last week. Under the terms of the RBB deal, the Braas family can match any offer for the business should Redland want to sell. Redland shares fell 5½p to 329½p.

Mature taste lifts Dairy Crest

By Dominic Walsh

DAIRY CREST, the former processing arm of the old Milk Marketing Board, is reaping the benefits of a growing consumer taste for more mature cheddar cheese.

John Houliston, chief executive, said the UK's mature and farmhouse cheddar sector was worth more than £500 million, having risen 5 per cent in the first half of the year.

Dairy Crest, which came to the stock market just over a year ago, has a 35 per cent market share through its Davidstow and Cathedral City brands, which sell at between £6.50 and £8 a kilogram, compared with about £3 for mild cheddar.

John Houliston served up an increase in pre-tax profits

Cathedral City's volumes were up almost a third in the half year to September 30. That performance helped the group to push up pre-tax profits from £16.5 million to £18.7 million, from turnover 3 per cent better at £392 million. Its consumer foods division, which includes Clover dairy spread, reported a 14 per cent rise in operating profit to £14.7 million, while food services dipped from £6.4 million to £5.4 million, reflecting the effect of the strong pound on ingredients markets.

Competition meant milk sales to supermarkets dipped, despite volume growth of 8 per cent, although lower costs meant profits rose in the declining doorstep market.

Earnings per share rose to 11.8p (10.5p) and an interim dividend of 3.5p (3.26p) will be paid on January 22.

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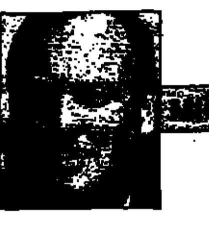


Broker's top ten rating sets Next shares jumping

THE best performer among the top 100 companies was Next, after leading City commentators predicted a revival in the fortunes of the high street retailer.

The price rebounded 47p to 734p on turnover of almost 2.7 million shares after Morgan Stanley decided to include Next in its list of top ten buys. Word is that it has also been included in a US broker's buy list. This is likely to encourage a fresh wave of institutional support.

At the same time, other brokers such as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson were urging clients to switch out of **Marks & Spencer**, down 10p at 600p, and into Next. This followed yesterday's disappointing interim results and in spite of a pledge by M&S to spend £2.1 billion on a major expansion programme.

Next had suffered a setback on Monday after Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, cast doubts over the group's earnings potential during 1997. Recent figures also disappointed the market, with like-for-like sales during August showing only modest improvement.

The rest of the equity market spent a lacklustre session, choosing to dwell on the overnight setback for the Hang Seng of 474 points. The 232-point surge in the Dow Jones industrial average was ignored with investors, instead, bracing themselves for opening falls when New York resumed trading last night.

As a result, the FTSE 100 index endured a 51-point turnaround to close 9.0 down at 4,897.4. Trading was again thin, with just 739 million changing hands.

There are signs that the speculators are starting to get cold feet in **Redland**, currently the subject of a 320p a share offer from Lafarge, the French group. The price has been as high as 340p, with the speculators pinning their hopes on a counter-bid. Last night the price slipped 4½p to 329½p and now stands just 9½p above the terms from Lafarge. The Redland board may be hard-pressed to improve on the deal already on the table.

That overnight hiccup for the Hang Seng in Hong Kong again hit those companies with close connections to the Far East. **HSBC** tumbled 59p to £14.93, **Standard Chartered** was down 12p at 656p and **Cable & Wireless** 8½p off at 473p. Even **Siebe** was 17p down at £11.66, reflecting its exposure to Asia, along with **Unilever**, 3½p off at 451p.

Senior Engineering slipped 1½ to 163½p as a party of brokers began a tour of the group's US operations.

Whitbread was a nervous market, slipping 15p to 790p ahead of half-year figures later today. Brokers are looking for pre-tax profits of £196 million compared with £178 million last time.

British Airways, also reporting today, fell 12½p to 576p. Interim pre-tax profits are expected to come out at £273 million, down from £459 million last time because of industrial action.

Cadbury Schweppes shrugged off reports claiming the group is about to axe 10 per cent of its soft drinks workforce in the US. Most of the 110 jobs will go in Dallas at the headquarters of its Seven-Up and Dr Pepper drinks business, which has come under fierce competition from Coca-Cola and Pepsi. The shares rose 4p to 595p. A "buy" recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing lifted **United Assurance** 11½p to 502p.

The appointment of Kevin Hand as chief executive of **Emap** was warmly received in the City, with the shares marked up 13¼p at 872½p. Only last week, Reed Elsevier put IPC, its magazine publishing business, up for sale. The 50-strong title group could be worth up to £800 million. **Reed International** rose 24p to 605p on the back of some positive comments from UBS, the broker.

Rank Group firmed 1¾p to 336p as the company began a two-day tour of its leisure activities with a party of brokers. They will visit Butlins, Hard Rock Cafe and the bingo operations.

Holmes Place proved it was no slouch at the start of first-time dealings. The health and fitness centres group saw its shares placed at 128p, with the price opening at 147½p. It closed at its best of the day with a rise of 42p at 170p on turnover of 3.4 million shares.

News of a bid approach lifted **Wellman**, the thermal engineer and garage operator, 6¾p to 37p.

A warning about the outcome for the year as a whole left **Betterware** nursing a fall of 11p at 88p.

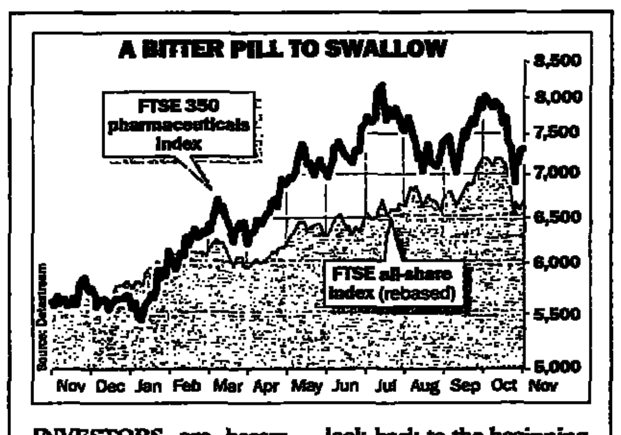
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices traded in narrow limits for much of the session before closing mixed. Investor sentiment remained preoccupied with tomorrow's decision on interest rates.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished three ticks better at £118½ after trading in limits of £118 5/16 and £118 9/16. The total number of contracts completed reached 72,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 put on seven ticks at £118⅛, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 shed £1/32 at £101¼.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street stocks were lower after a volatile morning as the market sought a footing in the wake of the previous day's big run-up and Hong Kong's overnight drop. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 13.50 lower at 7,660.89.

Shares in Rank, owner of Hard Rock Cafe, firmed 1¾p



INVESTORS are becoming increasingly choosey about which stocks to buy — even when it comes to blue chips. Yesterday saw a case in point, with Zeneca ending 43p lower, at £18.52, after a meeting with ABN Amro Hoare Govett on Monday. The broker is reputed to have cut its target price from £17 to £15.50. By contrast, Glaxo Wellcome rose 27p, to £13.07, after SBC Warburg, the broker, told clients to "add" to their holdings.

Kevin Scotcher, of NatWest Securities, is not surprised. He says: "If you look back to the beginning of the year, Glaxo and SmithKline Beecham have both outperformed Zeneca. In fact, Zeneca has badly underperformed."

In these circumstances, it is not the best policy for investors to adopt blanket coverage. "In a sector which has reached its all-time high and has since come off, currently standing 9 per cent below its relative high, you have to learn to stock pick," says Mr Scotcher.

That necessity, he says, becomes more acute during periods of volatility.

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 7660.89 (-13.50)
S&P Composite 937.22 (-1.77)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 16600.10 (+41.16)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 10780.78 (-474.33)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 868.95 (-13.82)

Sydney:
AO 2551.60 (+47.80)

Frankfurt:
DAX 3812.45 (-41.62)

Singapore:
Straits 1713.76 (+9.81)

Brussels:
General 13434.76 (+81.62)

Paris:
CAC-40 2774.90 (-13.06)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 1155.2 (-9.3)

London:
FT 30 3179.9 (+8.0)
FTSE 100 4897.4 (-9.0)
FTSE 250 4674.8 (+11.2)
FTSE 350 2366.1 (-2.3)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 2520.01 (+3.56)
FTSE All-Share 2316.92 (-2.00)
FTSE Non Financials 2351.17 (-1.82)
FTSE Fixed Interest 132.36 (-0.18)
FTSE Govt Secs 100.01 (+0.09)
Bargains 44118
SEAQ Volume 739.3m
US$ 1.6854 (+0.0084)
German Mark 2.9002 (-0.0111)
Exchange Index 102.9 (Same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.4780
£:SDR 1.2093
RPI 159.3 Sep (3.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX 157.8 Sep (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

Asset Mngmt Zero	101½	+ ¼
BG 'B'	30½	...
Buckland Inv Wrts	10	...
Buckland Investmnts	17½	...
Holmes Place	170	...
Latchways (155)	167½	...
Leicester City	92½	...
Marlborough Intl	102½	...
Metalsrussia	85½	...
NSB Retail Sys	167½	...
Newsquest (250)	234½	+ ½
Nottingham Frst (70)	60½	- 1
Nycomed Am N/V	2180	...
SHL Group	281½	...
Solitaire	190½	...
Ultraframe	177½	...
Weather Action	88½	- 2
Xaar	110	...

Alvis Units n/p	16½	- 4
Azlan n/p (37)	23½	- ½
Country Grdns n/p	5½	- 3
Jourdan T n/p (45)	2½	...
Lavendon n/p (265)	37½	- 6
Quicks n/p (115)	7½	- 4
Recognition Sys n/p	4	...

RISES:
Liberty 425p (+47½p)
Next 734p (+47p)
Sun Life & Prov 382p (+17p)
Reed Int 605p (+24p)
Blacks Leis 459½p (+17p)
Logica 88p (+26p)
Celltech 337½p (+10p)
French Conn 375p (+10p)
Natl Express 571½p (+14p)
Boots 887p (+20p)

FALLS:
Hutch Whamp 413¼ (-32p)
Scot & New 678p (-26p)
Wolseley 495p (-17p)
GUS 703p (-17p)
Kingfisher 843p (-19p)
Br Airways 576p (-12½p)
Whitbread 790p (-15p)
Stand Chart 658p (-12p)
Marks Spencer 600p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 32

Easy to swallow

IN a recent presentation, Aon Corporation showed investors a picture of a snake digesting an elephant. This image, presumably taken from Saint-Exupéry, was supposed to represent the broker's ability to absorb recent acquisitions — in particular, Alexander & Alexander. But the real message, Aon said, was that "The snake is still hungry".

The next elephant on the corporate menu could well be Willis Corroon, the UK broker that has long been under pressure from institutions to merge with its rival Sedgwick. Shareholders have become weary of waiting for Willis to deliver earnings growth. They are unlikely to be satisfied by the prospect of savings from more expensive redundancies.

With the share price currently at 124p, there would be some resistance amongst shareholders who bought Willis shares at 175p or even 200p to accept an offer from Aon in the range of 130p to 135p. However, there is little sign that earnings in the UK broking sector are likely to bounce in the short-term. US brokers are ahead of the UK in the art of cost-cutting and upgrading computer systems. Quick to undercut rivals in defence of their market share, this is turn sends commission rates tumbling.

The Willis board, committed to continued independence, has pinned its hopes on an upturn in trading conditions. Over the past 12 months there has been precious little evidence that ratings and margins are about to improve. Willis and Sedgwick are too small to compete on a global scale and too big to exploit niche markets. A bid may come before the end of the year and investors might as well hang on. But no one should chase this stock.

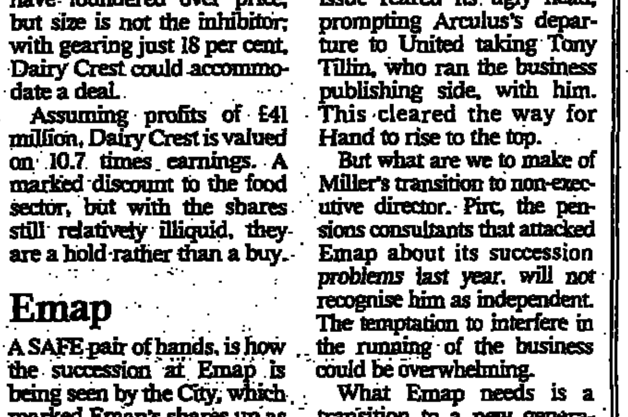
BP

BP's continuing use of the phrase "self-help" to describe its performance improvements may be just a touch self-congratulatory. Of the $1 billion achieved so far, the company admits that 20 per cent relates to cost savings and the remainder to volume.

Yet, no one will complain if BP is producing more oil and finding a market for it. The astonishing story of the oil industry in recent years has been the way in which demand has grown to match the exponential increase in supply. The shake-out in financial markets has left the oil price untroubled and there are few signs that energy demand is faltering.

BP is no longer a cost-cutting story, but a business that needs to be judged on its ability to make big investment bets. If there is a gap in its portfolio, it is in gas, where it is missing out on the high prices currently fetched by the fuel in the US market. However, the gas price is highly volatile and BP is building up its exposure elsewhere.

The big question for BP is whether its projects will enhance or diminish the 17 per cent return that it currently earns on capital. Planned share buybacks will flatter that number, but shareholders who back BP have the comfort of knowing that it is more committed to shareholder value than some in the industry. Investment in oil and gas is booming, but BP's new-found conservatism could save it from the inevitable disasters to come.



Dairy Crest

ANY farmer still holding shares in Dairy Crest must feel like the cat who got the cream. Launched at 155p in September 1996 (just as the new issues market was collapsing) the shares have been rising ever since, and yesterday's solid interim figures pushed them another 6p higher to 279½p.

The farmers still have 60 per cent of the stock, but should they hang on in what is undoubtedly a tough market? The doorstep pinta is an endangered species, accounting for less than a third of all milk sold. And even in the multiple retail sector, where volumes were up 8 per cent, competition and the buying power of the big supermarket chains combined to cancel out the benefits of lower raw milk costs.

Still, management are making the right moves, cutting costs (profits from doorstep deliveries were marginally up) and putting resources into premium cheese, spreads and fresh dairy products. Talks over the acquisition of Unigate's cheese business appear to have foundered over price, but size is not the inhibitor; with gearing just 18 per cent, Dairy Crest could accommodate a deal.

Assuming profits of £41 million, Dairy Crest is valued on 10.7 times earnings. A marked discount to the food sector, but with the shares still relatively illiquid, they are a hold rather than a buy.

Emap

A SAFE pair of hands, is how the succession at Emap is being seen by the City, which marked Emap's shares up as soon as the news came out. Anyone who was suprised by Kevin Hand's appointment as chief executive has not been paying attention to Emap over the past year.

The route was cleared for the Francophile and urbane Hand with almost Byzantine intrigue. The dynamic duo who spent 20 years building the group up — Robin Miller and David Arculus — seemed to fall out as the succession issue reared its ugly head, prompting Arculus's departure to United taking Tony Tillin, who ran the business publishing side, with him. This cleared the way for Hand to rise to the top.

But what are we to make of Miller's transition to non-executive director. Pirc, the pensions consultants that attacked Emap about its succession problems last year, will not recognise him as independent. The temptation to interfere in the running of the business could be overwhelming.

What Emap needs is a transition to a new generation of leaders capable of injecting the energy needed to maintain the momentum that has seen Emap treble in value over the past five years. It may be time to take profits at Emap.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt Previous open interest 200405	Dec 97	118-16	118-18	118-10	118-16	71974
	Mar 98	118-27	119-03	118-27	119-02	24543
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest 280833	Dec 97	102.44	102.65	102.43	102.62	93238
	Mar 98	101.81	101.87	101.80	101.91	1472
German Govt Bond (Bobl) Previous open interest 20178	Dec 97	103.59	103.69	103.58	103.61	11748
	Mar 98	102.90	102.95	102.90	102.90	122
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest 111969	Dec 97	111.68	111.92	111.65	111.88	29511
	Mar 98	111.90	112.03	111.90	112.01	246
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Dec 97	130.60	130.64	130.54	130.59	1474
	Mar 98	129.76	129.77	129.70	129.75	657
Three Mth Sterling	Dec 97	92.63	92.64	92.60	92.61	7639
	Mar 98	92.59	92.59	92.55	92.56	11878
Previous open interest 658858	Jun 98	92.63	92.63	92.58	92.59	7289
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest 1817962	Dec 97	96.24	96.26	96.24	96.25	36919
	Mar 98	95.99	96.01	95.98	96.00	39715
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest 493833	Dec 97	93.73	93.73	93.70	91.72	8154
	Mar 98	94.45	94.48	94.45	94.45	6111
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest 187803	Dec 97	98.00	98.01	97.96	97.98	5709
	Mar 98	97.80	97.83	97.79	97.81	4200
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest 37467	Dec 97	95.39	95.41	95.39	95.40	672
	Mar 98	95.31	95.32	95.30	95.32	189
FTSE 100 Previous open interest 74864	Dec 97	4940.0	4970.0	4908.0	4914.5	8180
	Mar 98				4955.5	0

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7½ Low 7 Week fixed: 7[illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7 ; 3 mth 7 . Sell: 2 mth 6[illegible] ; 3 mth 6[illegible] .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open 7[illegible], close 7[illegible] .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.58	n/a	5.69	5.72	5.85
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4-3
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

Bullion: Open $313.50-313.80 Close: $315.30-315.80 High: $316.00-316.40
Low: $312.00-312.50 AM: $313.30 PM: $315.35

Krugerrand: $315.00-317.00 (£187.00-189.00)

Platinum: $408.00 (£242.70) Silver: $4.88 (£2.895) Palladium: $209.00 (£124.75)

Mkt Rates for Nov 4	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2664-3.2714	3.2677-3.2714	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	59.760-59.890	59.787-59.890	20-15pr	55-48pr
Copenhagen	11.026-11.049	11.032-11.042	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	1.1118-1.1221	1.1126-1.1162	12-6pr	36-29pr
Frankfurt	2.8967-2.9030	2.8996-2.9023	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	295.69-296.25	295.81-296.24	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	244.66-245.09	244.72-245.04	50-40pr	141-122pr
Milan	2839.7-2845.1	2841.4-2845.1	18-2pr	57-34pr
Montreal	2.3575-2.3678	2.3655-2.3678	0.72-0.60pr	1.34-1.26pr
New York	1.6780-1.6861	1.6851-1.6861	0.243-0.222pr	0.663-0.632pr
Oslo	11.790-11.838	11.825-11.838	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	9.7050-9.7220	9.7117-9.7212	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	12.615-12.677	12.658-12.674	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	203.79-205.53	205.27-205.53	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	20.393-20.435	20.408-20.428	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.3582-2.3693	2.3667-2.3693	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

Australia	1.4154-1.4164
Austria	12.11-12.12
Belgium (Com)	35.54-35.55
Canada	1.4041-1.4046
Denmark	6.5525-6.5545
France	5.7680-5.7700
Germany	1.7216-1.7221
Hong Kong	7.7325-7.7345
Ireland	1.5076-1.5096
Italy	1685.16-1688.16
Japan	121.70-121.75
Malaysia	3.2815-3.2910
Netherlands	1.9405-1.9410
Norway	7.0187-7.0237
Portugal	175.65-175.75
Singapore	1.5615-1.5635
Spain	145.38-145.43
Sweden	7.5130-7.5204
Switzerland	1.4031-1.4039

Argentina peso*	1.6832-1.6859
Australia dollar	2.3815-2.3839
Bahrain dinar	0.6245-0.6385
Brazil real*	1.8523-1.8569
China yuan	13.729-14.029
Cyprus pound	0.8435-0.8625
Finland markka	8.6375-8.7785
Greece drachma	450.0-460.5
Hong Kong dollar	13.0099-13.0172
India rupee	60.32-61.62
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5030-0.5140
Malaysia ringgit	5.5211-5.5388
New Zealand dollar	2.6873-2.6902
Pakistan rupee	72.25 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0350-6.1700
Singapore dollar	2.6272-2.6314
S Africa rand (com)	7.9450-8.1140
U A E dirham	6.0875-6.2235

Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank

3i	237	Legal & Gn	2,800
ASDA Gp	7,300	Lloyds TSB	6,500
Abbey Ntl	2,400	LucasVarity	10,800
Allnce & Leic	503	Marks Spr	9,900
Allied Dom	1,900	NatWst Bk	1,400
AB Foods	1,700	Nat Grid	2,500
BAA	1,400	Nat Power	3,200
BAT Inds	3,300	Next	2,700
BG	4,000	Norwich Un	3,600
BOC	434	Orange	770
BP	9,300	P & O	3,100
BSkyB	604	Pearson	833
BTR	6,900	PowerGen	2,300
BT	11,700	Prudential	1,700
Bk of Scot	1,300	RMC	454
Barclays	2,900	Railtrack	1,500
Bass	1,400	Rank Group	1,800
Billiton	12,900	Reckitt Col	633
Blue Circle	1,500	Reed Intl	2,200
Boots	3,900	Rentokil	2,600
BAe	1,100	Reuters	2,800
BA	3,600	Rio Tinto	1,700
British Land	332	Rolls Royce	2,200
Brit Steel	2,800	Royal & Sun	1,900
Cable Wire	3,700	Royal Bk Scot	812
Cadbury	1,300	Safeway	1,000
Carlton Cms	1,300	Sainsbury	3,800
Centrica	7,000	Schroders	115
Cm Union	435	Scot & New	321
Dixons	1,700	Scot Power	1,500
EMI	2,600	Svrn Trent	1,200
Energy Gp	594	Shell Trans	8,600
Enterpr Oil	4,400	Siebe	747
GKN	750	SmKl Bch	4,800
GRE	967	Smiths Inds	254
GUS	909	Std Chartd	3,100
Gen Acc	397	Sun Life	534
Gen Elec	4,500	TI Gp	758
Glaxo Well	5,800	Tesco	4,300
Granada	771	Thames W	1,400
Grand Met	6,100	Tomkins	2,200
Guinness	3,500	Unilever	3,200
HSBC	2,700	Utd Utilities	872
Halifax	1,700	Utd News	271
Hays	1,900	Vodafone	8,600
ICI	1,300	Whitbread	875
Kingfisher	955	Williams	1,900
LASMO	1,200	Wolseley	546
Ladbroke	2,300	Woolwich	3,200
Land Secs	900	Zeneca	3,000

The black hole at the heart of Europe

Laurence Copeland says economic and monetary union sets a poverty trap and poses the threat of insolvency

At the heart of the Euro-constellation, shortly to be renamed EMU, yawns a black hole, threatening to suck in any economy which strays into its gravity field. The black hole is called insolvency.

This may, at first sight seem an outrageous statement. Surely, only Third World governments get into such dire straits. Surely insolvency couldn't arise in the heart of Europe? Unfortunately, it could, and all too easily. Sovereign defaults have never so far been a serious threat in the industrial world, not so much because of levels of economic development or supposedly greater fiscal responsibility. Rather, it is because most of the borrowing by Western governments has been denominated in their own domestic currencies. In contrast, Third World nations are often forced to borrow in foreign currency because their domestic capital markets are thin — and in many cases virtually non-existent — and because importers often insist on payment in "hard currency".

Default among countries with largely domestic debts is virtually impossible because the government simply prints more money. Those who finance themselves through foreign debt don't have that option. Now apply this to economic and monetary union. The European Central Bank in Frankfurt will have the sole prerogative of printing euros. So EMU will reduce all its member governments to the status of local authorities as far as their borrowing is concerned.

All government borrowing will effectively be in foreign currency and the threat of default will hang over every member to a greater or lesser degree. Those with relatively high debt levels and a history of fiscal irresponsibility will have low credit ratings and pay high rates of interest on their loans. More responsible governments will enjoy the benefits of the finest borrowing rates. Despite these variations in perceived credit quality, European interest rates have converged dramatically. Italian bonds are scarcely risker than those of Germany. The reason is not a suspension of the reality of market forces but realpolitik.

If an insolvent New York City was able to find a saviour even in the free market heyday of Reagan's presidency, the capital markets are betting that the European authorities will be forced to come to the aid of Italy or Spain, let alone France or Germany, if they are in distress. The pressure to bail out a country with a weak economy — or a weak will — is bound to prove irresistible. Suppose France suffered a funding crisis: imagine the consequences if Frankfurt ignored French pleas for funds. The air would be thick with the smell of bad blood from old wounds reopened. Ultimately, a bail-out could be the only way to prevent the EU breaking up amid mutual recriminations or worse. The "no bail-out" clause written into the Maastricht treaty with such a situation in mind would prove as expendable as the convergence criteria as economics were tossed aside for political expediency.

All this would be irrelevant if there was no danger that some in the EMU-zone might allow their fiscal affairs to deteriorate to the point of insolvency. But it cannot be ruled out. The almost ubiquitous fiscal incontinence is ominous. Even the threat of exclusion from EMU has proved unsufficient to get their fiscal houses genuinely in order. Only Luxembourg will satisfy the Maastricht borrowing conditions without cooking the books. The predicament of Belgium and Italy is probably beyond the help of statistical massage.

In the run-up to spring 1998 when those fit to join the euro will be chosen, aspiring members had to behave like boxers trying to make the weight for a big fight, with spending cuts and tax increases sold to voters on the implicit or even explicit promise of a post-match blow-out. After 1998, they will revert to the psychology of any sad heavyweight, willpower sapped by the lack of deadline, reliant only on self-discipline.

If countries haven't tightened their belts with EMU as the prize, what hope is there when the prize has already been won? These are the sort of considerations that motivated the stability pact, the patently unworkable German proposal for a system of fines on profligate EMU members. The idea of some kind of European traffic cop pinning fiscal speeding tickets on offending governments strains credulity. EMU is already unpopular without telling voters that it involves sacrificing national automony in fiscal as well as monetary policy.

If the stability pact proves unworkable, as it almost certainly will, EMU members will face a stark choice: either to overspend, or to finance the overspending of the other member indefinitely. This is less a case of moral hazard, more like Europe's national poverty trap.

Laurence Copeland is Professor of Finance at Cardiff Business School. Janet Bush is on holiday.

One way or another, the end is nigh for Britain's shopping boom

The forecasts from Marks & Spencer may be bullish, but **Douglas McWilliams** says the retail party is over

Shoppers have been out in force this year and a bumper Christmas season is forecast. However, restraint is likely to be the order of the day in early 1998

In the immediate aftermath of the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, I pointed out that there would be a negative impact on retail sales for September. In the event, the 1.9 per cent drop was twice as large as can be attributed solely to what I termed the "Diana effect".

Does this mean that Britain's retailing bonanza is coming to an end?

Retail sales growth has been boosted in the past two years by a potent mixture of rising real incomes, falling unemployment, tax cuts, low interest rates and building society windfalls. At the same time, the virtual disappearance of negative equity in the housing market, a booming stock market and diminishing job insecurity have boosted consumer confidence.

Before the September drop, retail sales were running 10 per cent higher than two years earlier. This is about twice the pace of growth that is sustainable in the long term. The choice, therefore, is between an Eighties-style continuation of the boom until it causes an inflation-driven bust, or a soft landing, with the consumer's spending impulses being moderated at an early stage.

My instinct is that moderation will prevail this time. The windfall bonanza has ended and is unlikely to be repeated on anything like the same scale. During 1997, consumers received £30 billion from windfalls, about 5 per cent of their disposable incomes. Although, as most economists predicted, only about a quarter of this will have been spent during the year, this is still enough to add more than 1 per cent to consumer spending.

The shape of the economic cycle has been especially favourable to disposable incomes in 1997. Prices have been held down by the strength of sterling, while wages and salaries have edged up as skill shortages have emerged. These factors will remain in 1998, but — unless the pound rises further — the higher exchange rate is a one-off whose effects on inflation wear off after a year or so.

Another reason for expecting consumer spending growth to slow is politics. With Tony Blair now master of all that he surveys, it is easy to forget that economic policy for most of the 1996-97 period was dominated by a Conservative government trying to win re-election. Taxes were cut by the November Budgets of both 1995 and 1996, and Kenneth Clarke avoided raising interest rates in early 1997 against the advice of most economic experts, including the Bank of England.

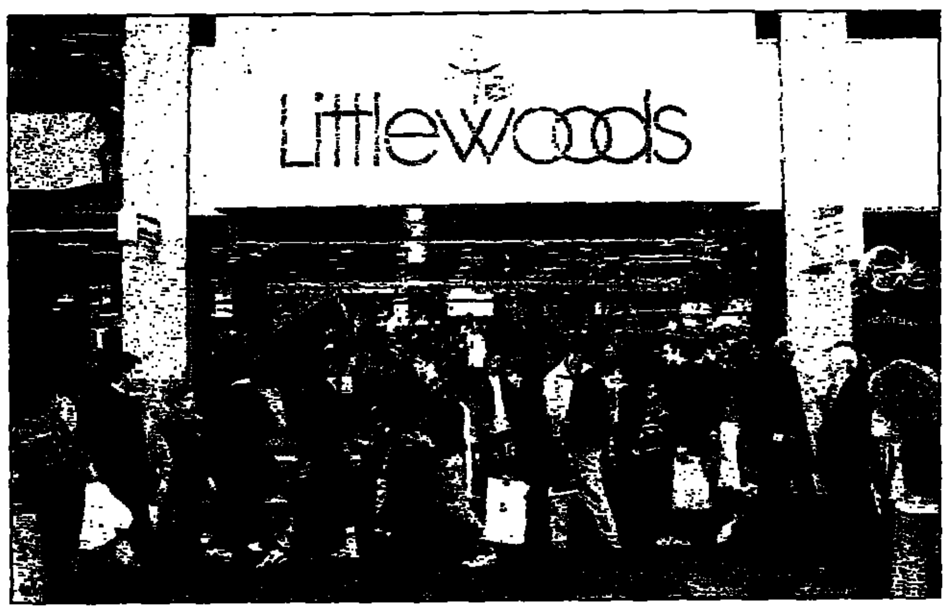
Post election, the position has changed. Interest rates are now set by the politically independent Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England and have been raised four times since the election. If the stock market turmoil of the past week causes the committee to stay its hand at its meeting tomorrow, it remains clear that further increases are on the cards.

The Government's single-minded attitude towards re-election means that we are likely to be spared the swingeing tax increases imposed by previous Labour administrations. However, taxes and charges will probably edge upwards in the coming years.

The combination of the end of windfalls with the swing in the political cycle and slower growth in disposable income means that the consumer boom will have ended by mid-1998. The question of greatest importance to retailers is how soon the boom will unwind. Shelves are being filled for a bumper Christmas spending season this year. If the boom ends early, this stock will have to be cleared in the January sales at give-away prices.

The tool of economic analysis is insufficiently precise to answer this question with certainty. The critical factor will be consumer confidence. Stock market volatility is bad for confidence, especially for senior management and those working in the City. However, barring meltdown, the remaining influences on confidence are positive. House prices have risen to the point at which positive equity, rather than negative, has become relevant. Job insecurity remains, but is much less a worry now than when the economy was weak and unemployment was high. The election has resolved political uncertainties.

On balance, therefore, it looks as if a bumper Christmas spending season is in prospect. If this happens, the spending slowdown will start in January. The volume of goods sold in January is determined by how much is left on the shelves after Christmas — the strength of demand merely determines how low prices have to be cut in order to move the unsold stock. If Christmas sales are high, expect only modest price cuts in January, with sales volumes falling.



Littlewoods failed to thrive in the retail boom, and Marks & Spencer is buying some sites

It is worth noting that the effects of the end of the consumer spending boom will be differentiated between sectors. Consumer durables, and especially cars, have been particularly affected by windfalls, and sales may even fall in 1998. The travel industry may fare better because sterling's strength is reducing the cost of travel abroad.

Perhaps the most buoyant consumer sector for 1998 is likely to be the leisure sector. The slower growth in spending power will do little to hold back the trend for British people to spend more in restaurants, bars, clubs and sports centres.

However, if spending in the high street and shopping centres does not slow down early in 1998, it is a racing certainty that interest rates will be raised to ensure that the bubble is burst later in the year.

Douglas McWilliams is chief executive of the Centre for Economics and Business Research Ltd.

How the video conference keeps business in the picture

Prices are falling as telecoms groups aim for increased usage. **Chris Ayres** reports

Video conferencing could yet become the corporate status symbol of the 1990s, a decade behind the mobile phone — now as likely to be used by brickies as stockbrokers. Although the equipment involved is still rather clumsy and expensive, manufacturers are currently cutting prices to boost interest in the technology.

In Britain 10,000 businesses are estimated to use video conferencing technology, with more than 250,000 companies using videophones worldwide. Telephone companies confidently predict that within two years videophones will become as common as fax machines.

The term video conferencing was invented to make what is essentially a videophone sound like an important business tool. Marketing gurus would argue that the term videophone carries with it a rather cheap and nasty 1970s sci-fi image. Companies such as BT and CWC — which stand to make a fortune if the technology catches on — want customers to think business, not Barbarella. The battle to gain control of the video conferencing market is moving at a frantic pace, with technology now cheap enough for people with under £1,000 of spare cash to consider installing it in their own homes, as well as in the office. Prices for PC systems have fallen from about £2,500 two years ago to under £700 today for BT's DVS100. For that price, customers get a card for their PC, a camera to put on top of it and the necessary software. They will also need an ISDN telephone line, costing about £200, which essentially allows the videophone to use two lines simultaneously for greater quality. Unfortunately for the customer — but great news for telephone companies — this has the side effect of doubling the cost of calls.

> Some users look like badly dubbed actors in a kung-fu movie

The quality of picture and sound on these systems is still fairly poor, but good enough to be useful. Slower computers will give the user the appearance of a badly dubbed actor in a pirated Japanese kung-fu movie. To get some kind of quality yardstick, customers should think of the BBC's live broadcasts — which use up to 1,000 telephone lines simultaneously — compared with the two used by a £700 PC system.

Video conferencing allows users to work on the same computer documents as someone else — or several other people — and at the same time see and hear what each other is doing. The more expensive systems have much more impressive quality, although they use more telephone lines, thus raising call costs even further. However, for international meetings especially, the money and time saved by using video conferencing can be enormous. Cameras can be panned in and out, and separate fixed units can be used to show close-ups of, say, a microchip.

Those who are sceptical about the practical applications for such systems should look at Mercedes Benz, the German carmaker. Because many Mercedes dealerships are small, they cannot afford to hire their own advisers to sell the company's financial services products. Instead, Mercedes has hired a team of advisers who work from a national video conferencing centre, where they deal with about 50 customers a day. Dealerships have to spend only £5,000 on a BT videophone — a compact screen and phone in one unit — to give their customers immediate access to the company's top financial sales team. Mercedes says it has seen a 25 per cent rise in financial services sales since installing the equipment. It has the added benefit of impressing Mercedes customers and boosting the company's high-tech image. Nissan, another car manufacturer, also uses video conferencing to hold meetings between European sites, and made more than 1,500 calls last year.

Video conferencing also allows companies or individuals to work effectively without having to be based in Central London. Attinger Jack Advertising, an agency in Dorset, says video conferencing allows it to compete with multinational agencies in London.

The company says it can dramatically cut the presentation time for new campaigns by using the technology to show video, text and graphics to clients. They can work on campaigns, budgets and schedules without having to travel to London, saving both time and travelling expenses.

The future of video conferencing will ultimately depend on how willing people are to conduct all their business from the same office. For the technology to work, calls must be cheaper than travelling. People's offices will also have to have a great view.

Hurn pay

SIR ROGER HURN put Smiths
Industries on the map as a business
worth £2.7 billion. Yet in November
Hurn, who had been chairman and
chief executive, brought in Keith
Butler-Wheelhouse as chief executive
and heir apparent. And he has since
been busy elsewhere, what with
interviewing at Stanhope Gate for a
next job as chairman of GEC and
engineering the departure of Sean
Lance at Glaxo Wellcome, where he
is deputy chairman.

Funnily enough, this splitting of responsibilities at Smiths does not seem to be reflected in salaries. The accounts just out show that Butler-Wheelhouse pulled in £702,000 all told. For nine months work, Hurn's total pay actually rose by £19,000, to £719,000. Annualise this, and you find that the job that one man did for £700,000 one year, two men were paid £1.6 million to do the next. Smiths people mutter about "a handover year". But it does not exactly look like value for money.

"We're in luck. M&S is planning to open a branch here soon"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

- *IS THIS the easiest job on the Euro-gravy train? I have an invitation from Brussels to some awful conference on tourism this week, signed by Fernand Boden, styled "minister for middle classes and tourism of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg". A state whose 147 inhabitants are all resolutely middle class and which no one would want to visit anyway.*

Just 'deserts'

SINCE we are being beastly to foreigners, I see our French chums are up to their old tricks again. No, not closing down every road in France, although I remember a true story from the last stoppage told to me by a British transport firm. Apparently, the French police would helpfully take over the blockading trucks and look after them whenever the drivers wanted to go off for a three-hour lunch. Anyway. This week is the occasion of the latest International Trade Fair in Baghdad, whose ruler is again trying our patience.

For the first time since the Gulf War, Western firms are there. The British and Americans are not welcome. But there are a few Germans, who did not fight in the war, and a scattering of Italians, who did. The French, our gallant co-belligerents, have turned out in droves. They have taken an entire pavilion, with 40 companies in oil, food, and pharmaceuticals. Serve them right if the place blows up again and Saddam uses them as a human shield.

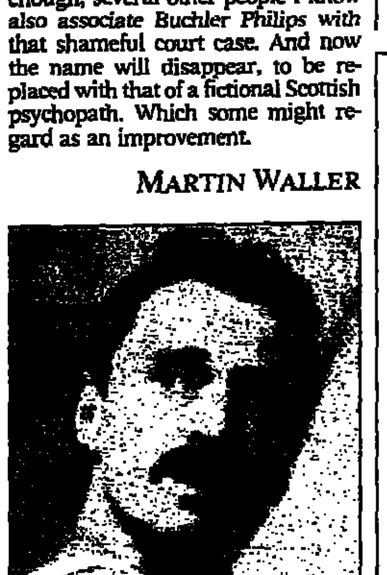
- *SOME unkind souls in the Liberty camp have been challenging the credentials of Odile Griffith, the charming corporate financier who is advising the Stewart-Liberty family in their spat with the store's management. No mention of her name was found in a recent trawl of the Securities and Futures Authority. Has she been practising the black arts without a licence, some ask? Let me put the record straight. Until last Friday Griffith, although an independent, was employed by NatWest and so registered through them. Now she has shaken off the shackles and runs RKR Corporate Finance, her own business. And from Monday has been registered personally with the SFA. If it's any of your business.*

Namespotting

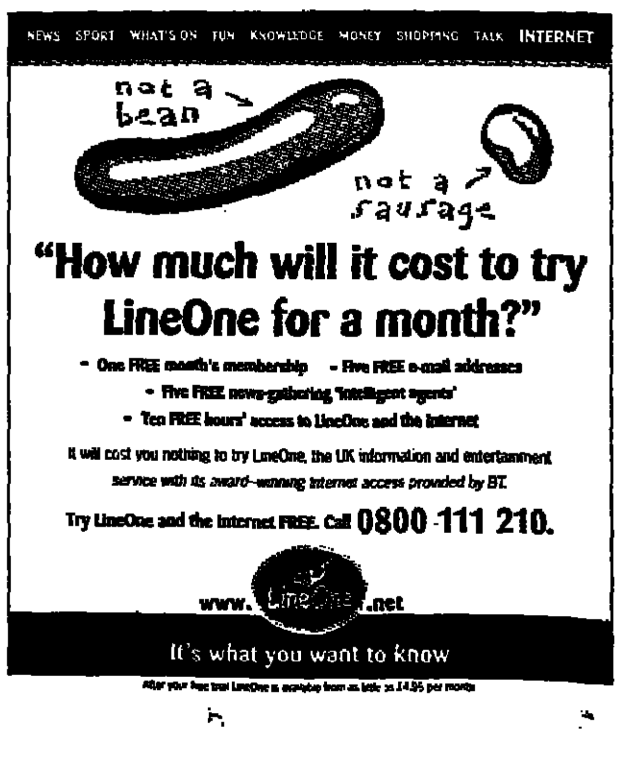
AN ANNOUNCEMENT of an accounting marriage catches my eye. Buchler Philips Traynor is merging with Begbies — Begbie? Wasn't that the man in *Trainspotting* played by Robert Carlyle who kept hitting people? We'll let it pass — to create ... Begbies Traynor. So gone are the names of Buchler and Philips. We will never hear them in open court again. Like we did that day in July when Buchler Philips, along with Nabarro Nathanson, were castigated by Mr Justice Ferris for their conduct in the Maxwell receivership.

His honour put it thus, did he not? "Having in this way done my best to set out the figures objectively, I cannot escape saying that I find them profoundly shocking. If the amounts claimed are allowed in full this receivership will have produced substantial rewards for the receivers and their lawyers and nothing at all for creditors of the estate." Funnily enough, several other people I know also associate Buchler Philips with that shameful court case. And now the name will disappear, to be replaced with that of a fictional Scottish psychopath. Which some might regard as an improvement.

MARTIN WALLER



Robert Carlyle, who was Begbie in the hit film Trainspotting



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Modest losses at the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on *the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend.* Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
529	407½	Allied Domecq	498	- 1	5.4	14.9
636	385	Bulmer (HP)	445	- 2½	4.1	12.4
75½	40½	Burn Stewart	48½		8.8	16.9
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	975		1.7	24.1
638	425½	Grand Met	545½	+ 1	3.4	17.5
639½	424	Guinness	550	- ½	3.5	15.1
380	290	Highland Dist	322½	+ 1	3.5	14.6
336	213	Matthew Clark	243½	- 1	12.3	7.3
109½	52½	Morydun	55		7.0	13.8
2009¾	1450	SA Breweries	1584¾	- 31½	2.2	

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1521½	915¾	ABN-AMRO	1208¾	+ 3½	2.7	17.1
991½	710	Abbey Nat	983	- 1	3.6	15.8
770	532½	Alliance & Leic	673½	- 10	3.0	15.8
563	380½	Allied Irish	516	+ 7	3.5	14.6
516¼	363½	Aus New Z	437	+ 7½	4.3	
4931¼	2875	Bank America	4309¾	- 96¼		
548	291¼	Bank Scotland†	505	- 5	2.2	14.0
1600	978½	Barclays	1500	- 6	2.8	14.3
814½	517½	Bk of Ireland	765½	+ 8	2.6	16.9
8959¾	6006½	Citicorp	7675	- 68¾		
1759¾	1268¾	Commerzbk	1671½	+ 6½	2.8	
867½	478½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	512½	+ 3½	0.8	
4593½	2709¾	Deutsche Bk	3893¾	- 53¾	1.6	
1300	759¾	Espirito Santo	1300	- 6½	3.0	
947½	510	Fuji Bank Y	621		0.8	
2369½	1272½	HSBC	1493	- 59	3.9	12.1
2258½	1326	HSBC HI	1410	- 65	4.1	11.4
783	507	Halifax	694	+ 6	2.7	23.4
645	483½	Irish Perm	585	+ 5	2.6	16.2
860½	424	Lloyds TSB	747½	- 3	2.4	21.8
1008	669½	Nat Aust Bk	874½	+ 24	4.3	13.0
1012½	663½	Nat West	879	+ 1	4.3	13.9
504½	449	Northern Rock	479½	- 2	2.4	18.9
723½	508	Ryl Bk Scot	645	- 5	3.8	13.9
1093½	592½	Stand Chart	656	- 12	3.0	11.4
£164¼	£164¾	Wells Fargo	£164¾		1.9	
403½	315½	Westpac	364	+ ½	4.1	
373½	272	Woolwich	296	- 4	3.3	17.5

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	695	Bass	838	+ 1	3.8	15.7
60¼	43½	Brit for the Bd	46		4.9	9.7
205	132½	Burtonwd Brw	144½	- 1½	5.2	13.5
155½	121½	City Centre Rest	130	+ 1	2.4	30.2
742½	575½	Compass Gp	625	- 3½	1.8	23.0
305	250	Eldridge P A	280		2.7	14.3
266½	221	Enterprise Inns	261½		3.3	18.4
485	412	Fuller Sm A	432½	+ 2½	2.9	15.1
586	310	Greenalls Grp	355	+ 2½	5.6	8.8
770	610	Greene King	629	+ 1½	3.2	13.5
237½	152½	Grosvenor Inns†	203½	- 2	3.9	21.2
292½	218½	Groupe Chez Ger	275½		1.5	
298½	226½	Hardy Hanson	227½		6.0	10.1
2950	2485	Hall J	2545		2.9	14.2
78	59	Inn Business	60½		3.4	9.7
357	309	Mansfield	309	- 1½	2.8	13.5
315½	252	Marston Thmp	272	+ 1	3.7	9.4
615	496	Morland	505		2.2	13.0
266½	210	Old Eng Pub	260	- ½	1.2	30.5
47½	18½	Paramount	21½	- 2		
853	527½	PizzaExpress†	765	+ 4	0.5	39.5
437½	327½	Regent (H)	332½		1.9	23.4
378½	262½	Regent Inns†	282½		4.2	
130	102½	SFI†	116½	+ ½	0.8	24.8
768½	566	Scot & New	678	- 26	3.9	14.5
305	222½	Vaux Group	240½	+ 1½	5.6	10.8
1625	1105	Wetherspoon JD†	1607½	+ 2½	0.8	
963	620	Whitbread	790	- 15	3.8	14.5
706½	455	Wolvrhmptn D	456½		4.8	9.9
382½	279¾	Yates Bros	378½		1.0	30.3
702½	615	Young "A"	675		2.8	26.5

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
225	162½	Car Group	190½	+ 1½	2.6	20.5
169½	117½	Caverdale	161½		2.9	9.4
100	61½	Charles Sidney†	85½	+ 3	4.6	12.2
59½	43½	Cook (DC)	46½		6.5	6.2
121	90½	Dag Motors†	101½	+ ½	9.9	6.6
134½	102½	Denmans El	103		3.4	9.4
400	217	Diploma	239½		7.6	9.0
502½	387½	Electrocompnts	464		2.1	26.2
226½	117½	Eurodis Elec	158½	...	4.0	31.2
105	76½	European Mtr	98½	+ ½	7.1	8.8
300	213	Evans Halshaw	298		6.9	
55½	39½	Fife Indmar	49½		8.6	8.1
397½	275	Finelist Grp	330	+ 1½	2.9	14.6
34½	22½	Gardiner	23		5.2	8.5
79¼	57½	Glenchewton	70		2.8	11.4
110	82½	Gowrings†	103½		3.7	17.2
15¾	11	HR Owen	13		7.0	8.8
103	20½	Hamlet#	22½			2.1
272½	232½	Harris (Philip)†	270		4.6	10.4
374	284½	Headlam	331½		2.3	20.0
172	146	Holders Tech	157½		5.2	12.9
240½	118½	ISA Intl	130½	+ 4	2.8	10.2
308½	204	Inchcape†	216½	- 1½	5.7	14.3
72	46½	Jacks (Wm)†	60½	- 2	5.2	7.8
343½	214½	Kwik-Fit	324½	+ 1	2.3	17.8
460½	316½	Lex Service	421½	- 1½	4.9	12.7
122	97	Lookers	113	+ 8½	8.8	8.1
9	5½	Middlesex	7		1.8	17.1
41½	10½	Midstates†	18		3.3	
472	180	Norbain	331½	+ 9½	3.2	11.2
209½	114½	Northamber	206½	+ 6½	0.8	14.4
352½	287½	Parkcol†	312½		3.2	16.6
394½	264½	Pendragon	391½		4.4	12.8
223½	172½	Perry Grp	183½		6.3	8.1
751	447½	Premier Farnell†	463½	- ½	3.4	17.2
144½	116	Quicks Group	137½	- 4	7.6	8.2
357	300	REA	302½		1.7	66.8
2½	1½	Reece	1½			50.2
28	11½	Ronson	13½			
4	2¾	Ross Gp	2¾			
109½	78½	Ryland	88½		5.8	8.4
38	24	SEP Indl	30½		6.3	14.2
82½	25	Saltire	34½		4.3	
415¼	331½	Time Products	342½		6.5	9.8
347	166	Trust Motor Grp	169½		8.4	7.4
408	328	UMECO	400		1.7	26.0
93½	59	United Carr Gp	88		0.5	19.6
352½	267½	Vardy (Reg)	305	- 3½	3.1	14.5
685	498½	WF Elect	655		2.9	22.5
41	25½	Wishaw	33	+ ½	3.2	9.3
172½	111½	Wyko	150½	- 1½	2.5	16.7
159½	119½	Young (H)	150		3.6	12.7

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No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Caffyns	Distrib's	
2	Body Shop	Ret Gen	
3	TDG	Transport	
4	Edge Props	Property	
5	Atlantic Tele	Media	
6	Torex	Sup Serv	
7	Mcklw (A&J)	Property	
8	Unigate	Food Man	
9	Perkins Food	Food Man	
10	Trinity Ind	Media	
11	Irish Perm	Banks	
12	Orange	Telecomms	
13	Firth Bldgs	Engin'ing	
14	Dixons Grp	Ret Gen	
15	Black (A&C)	Media	
16	Brixton	Property	
17	Nthn Ireland	Elec'y	
18	Ocean Group	Transport	
19	Serco Gp	Sup Serv	
20	Gearhse Grp	Media	
21	ISA Intl	Distrib's	
22	*API*	*Print Pap*	
23	Kwik-Fit	Distrib's	
24	West Hlthcare	Healthcare	
25	Cadbry-Sch	Food Man	
26	Westbury	Bld & Cons	
27	Hydro-Elect	Elec'y	
28	REXAM	Print Pap	
29	Smith & Neph	Healthcare	
30	Bespak	Healthcare	
31	Vitec	Engin'ing	
32	Norwich Un	Insurance	
33	Rathbone Brs	Oth Fin	
34	How Gp	Engin'ing	
35	Verity	Electronic	
36	Lonrho	Div Inds	
37	Halifax	Banks	
38	Enrgy Grp	Elec'y	
39	*Courtaulds*	*Chemicals*	
40	Indpndnt	Insurance	
41	Southrn Elec	Elec'y	
42	PizzaExp	Brews	
43	Mersy Dcks	Transport	
44	CRT Gp	Sup Serv	

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BOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
17 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
ed Funds				
K Safeguard	139.27	148.41†	+ 0.53	..
o NAV to Jun 20	138.82	138.69		
K Equity Safeguard	108.98	116.38	+ 0.10	2.47
s NAV to Sep 19	106.93	108.98	...	
nd	951.02	955.78†	...	5.75
K Growth Funds				
K Equity Gen	351.80	372.80†	- 1.76	1.74
K Small Cos	79.00	84.49†	...	0.49
TSE 250 Index	98.54	103.24	+ 0.40	2.11
ated UK Index	2211.58	2334.71†	- 3.00	5.75
come Funds				
d Bd	80.76	83.43	+ 0.02	..
Equity Inc	41.04	43.80†	+ 0.16	8.73
national Funds				
American Gen	284.80	301.50†	+ 5.00	
American Smlr	280.49	278.50	+ 5.40	...
G S Index	2217.77	2338.77†	+ 9.00	4.00
European Gen	315.70	334.00	+ 1.80	...
European Smlr	138.71	148.34	+ 0.80	...
Japan Gen	113.40	120.80†	- 0.69	..
Asia Pacific	73.56	78.50†	- 0.62	..
Pacific Smlr	124.85	133.30	+ 0.90	..
Greater China	227.77	243.60	- 4.20	..
Latin America	105.16	112.48	+ 5.20	...
al Growth	168.25	178.85	+ 1.50	..
Balanced Exempt	156.80	161.30		..
Global Strategy	49.58	53.02	+ 0.55	
EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	812.30	864.10	- 0.20	2.63
General Inc	662.00	704.30	- 0.20	2.63
UK Growth Acc	582.40	598.20	- 0.10	2.58
UK Growth Inc	355.50	378.10	- 0.10	2.58
Higher Inc Acc #	1026.80	1091.00	+ 3.00	4.68
Higher Inc Inc #	528.70	560.30	+ 1.30	4.68
Gilt Fxd Int Acc	228.70	241.70	- 0.10	5.70
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	95.27	100.80	- 0.10	5.70
Nth America	423.00	450.00	+ 6.90	..
Europe	430.00	457.40	+ 2.80	0.82
Bri Small	112.40	119.50	...	2.39
Brit Indexfolio Acc	140.80	148.50	+ 0.20	4.65
Brit Indexfolio Inc	90.20	95.95	+ 0.16	4.65
Global Opps	110.00	117.00	+ 0.90	0.38
Balanced Acc	71.35	75.90	- 0.08	2.52
Balanced Inc	65.22	69.38	- 0.08	2.52
Japan Acc	35.50	37.78	- 0.28	..
Pacific Basin Acc	295.50	314.30	- 5.20	1.52
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
& Fixed Int	141.20	149.90	+ 0.10	6.08
Inc Equity	214.40	229.30†	+ 0.80	4.40
Worldwide Bond	266.00	282.10†	- 0.30	3.51
American Growth	508.30	542.50	+ 10.00	0.31
Asia Pacific	246.20	263.30	- 1.10	0.52
Assets & Earnings	339.80	353.60†	- 0.20	2.64
Euro Capital Acc	232.10	248.30	+ 1.60	0.80
Extra Inc	43.89	45.84†	- 0.26	9.08
General	309.00	328.70	- 0.20	2.98
Global Opps	76.05	80.90	+ 0.57	0.40
Japan	81.89	87.58	- 0.54	..
Managed Inc	51.41	54.89†	- 0.08	4.31
Mastertrust	181.90	194.59	+ 0.69	1.14
US Emerging Cos	220.40	235.70	+ 6.40	..
Ethical	88.29	93.93	- 0.08	1.95
International	141.38	150.30	+ 0.80	0.58
Dividend & Growth	79.59	84.67	+ 0.12	4.12
Global Grwth & Sec	77.60	82.92	+ 0.03	2.44
Latin America	79.89	84.99	+ 3.39	0.79
Capital Reserve	152.30	152.30	...	4.59
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
UK Growth	108.20	115.10	- 0.10	2.02
Equity Income #	152.80	162.30	...	2.85
Euro Income #	294.50	312.80	+ 0.20	6.47
Smaller Cos	103.90	110.50†	+ 0.10	2.89
International	125.20	133.10†	+ 0.29	1.36
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	77.22	80.28†	+ 1.58	..
Emerging Mkts	65.18	67.89	+ 0.48	0.28
European	164.80	171.39	+ 0.28	...
Extra Income #	56.45	59.42	+ 0.03	5.08
Far East Emg Eco	92.08	96.58	+ 0.64	1.22
Fixed Interest #	27.61	28.71†	+ 0.04	8.12
Fund Inv Tst #	177.46	188.30†	+ 1.54	0.85
Japan	155.10	161.13	- 1.25	...
Latin American	67.41	70.91	+ 2.95	...
Pacific	62.50	65.61†	+ 0.75	0.57
Property	90.73	95.26		1.38
UK Emerging Cos	70.33	75.89	- 0.96	0.91
UK Growth	85.27	90.01†	- 1.03	1.35
World Port #	88.37	93.01	+ 0.35	2.85
Capital	85.18	88.58	+ 0.72	1.13
Gilt Inc #	50.86	59.88	- 0.01	8.84
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2499.00	2603.00	.	...
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5888				
Resid Property #	111.30	118.10	..	4.81
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	106.21	112.69	+ 0.28	1.85
Income Builder Inc	96.26	102.40	+ 0.09	3.49
For Allied Dunbar see Threadneedle				
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Contrctd Out Pens	135.80	141.10		
Foundtn Pers Pens	79.85	82.12	...	...
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
American Sm Cos	455.60	484.70	+ 6.20	...
Bond	123.70	130.08†	...	6.43
Brit Smlr Cos	114.72	122.07	..	1.80
Europe	345.50	367.10†	+ 2.30	...
Euro Smlr Cos	125.30	133.60†	+ 0.80	0.31
High Income #	67.28	71.57†	+ 0.08	5.45
Income	398.90	424.00	+ 0.29	4.00
Japan	286.49	303.80†	- 4.30	
Latin American	104.09	110.69	+ 6.10	
Pacific	86.85	92.40	- 2.14	0.82
UK Smlr Cos	62.95	66.97	+ 0.06	1.29
Japanese Sm Cos	507.90	524.20	- 13.60	..
Mgd Fd	230.80	245.20†	+ 0.50	2.44
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
480 8873				
Brit Opps	418.40	434.10	...	0.82
Capital Gwth	154.20	163.10	..	2.57
Wwide Opps	225.50	238.50	...	0.92
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0181 522 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.50	100.50†	..	6.56
Cash Acc	130.40	130.40	..	6.56
Income #	685.80	731.50	+ 2.70	4.10
Income Builder #	79.32	84.47	+ 0.25	4.68
Intl Income	82.30	87.55	+ 0.59	1.53
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	101.30	107.80†	+ 0.30	2.22
500	518.90	558.00	+ 1.90	1.89
General	387.80	415.38†	+ 0.20	1.56
Property	269.60	289.30	..	5.49
Trustee	273.30	290.70	+ 0.20	1.83
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	174.00	185.10	..	1.59
FTSE 100	125.50	133.20	+ 0.10	1.85
Growth Acc	543.20	577.90	+ 0.30	1.54
Smaller Cos	61.32	65.41	+ 0.09	2.24
Smaller Cos Acc	73.85	78.78	+ 0.11	2.24
Growth Funds - Overseas				
America	222.40	235.10†	+ 4.90	..
American Growth	153.20	162.40	+ 3.20	..
Japan	103.08	109.80	- 0.90	...
Japan Acc	104.10	110.10	- 0.80	
Japan Spec Sits	48.49	51.36	- 0.50	..
Worldwide	210.90	223.90	+ 0.80	0.74
Barclays Investment Portfolios				
Managed Income	48.46	50.10	- 0.05	7.10
Mgd Gwth & Inc #	46.09	48.94	- 0.03	4.59
Managed Growth	45.28	48.35	+ 0.12	0.50
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	172.80	182.50	+ 3.80	..
Asian Smlr Cos	171.50	182.00	+ 3.60	..
Eastern	190.10	207.80	- 3.20	0.30
Equity Income #	120.70	128.80†	+ 0.10	4.00
European Growth	470.30	499.50	+ 2.60	0.80
Europe	428.30	458.00	+ 2.50	0.80
German Growth	104.40	110.60	+ 1.10	0.50
Global Bond	73.03	76.81	- 0.19	4.80
Global Growth	165.70	175.90	+ 1.70	0.40
Japan Growth	135.60	143.80	- 1.80	..
Japan Sectr	92.07	97.51	- 2.23	.
Korea Trust	34.11	37.07	+ 2.11	..
Portfolio	169.40	180.60	+ 0.10	2.00
-do- Accum	327.20	349.30	+ 0.30	2.00
UK Growth	128.80	137.00	- 0.10	3.00
UK Smaller Cos	118.70	128.60†	+ 1.50	1.90
Select Managers	93.36	99.95	+ 0.51	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	102.30	108.80	+ 2.50	...
Special Oppor Inc	62.43	66.42	+ 4.80	..
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	175.79	183.12†	- 0.24	0.95
-do- Accum	207.93	216.59	- 0.29	0.95
Smaller Cos	181.31	188.87†	+ 0.06	0.44
Higher Yield #	67.43	70.24†	+ 0.05	3.53
American Gth Inc	134.78	140.37	+ 1.07	...
European Growth	189.35	197.24	+ 0.91	...
-do- Accum	193.40	201.46	+ 0.93	.
Mngd Pfolio Inc	59.10	61.56†	+ 0.10	1.22
-do- Accum	61.93	64.51	+ 0.10	1.22
Int Spec Opps	190.24	198.17	+ 0.70	.
Pacific Gth	115.34	120.77	- 0.84	..
UK General #	119.43	124.40	- 0.03	2.60
-do- Accum #	131.57	137.01	- 0.03	2.60
Japan	42.86	44.64	- 0.38	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	108.24	112.17	- 0.22	7.30
ARAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	66.17	67.02	.	6.24
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	203.50	219.53	+ 0.80	1.58
UK Growth	266.10	283.90	- 0.20	1.60
UK Income	179.20	186.20†	+ 0.50	3.74
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dist	265.40	281.20	+ 0.10	1.21
-do- Accum	149.10	158.00†		2.20
-do- Income Dist	503.10	533.20†	+ 0.10	3.20
-do- Accum	43.01	45.19	+ 0.03	5.09
Fixed Int	312.40	333.90	- 1.20	1.75
Mkts	186.00	195.70	- 0.30	6.00
Gold	229.80	244.70	+ 1.70	0.30
Intl Growth	310.70	329.90	+ 4.70	...
North American	279.80	224.50	- 1.20	0.94
Far East	259.20	276.20	+ 1.50	1.05
UK Smaller Cos	109.40	116.50	+ 0.80	0.55
European	32.29	34.21	- 0.28	..
Japanese Growth	261.30	279.20†	- 0.10	3.64
High Income				
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0181 837 7423 Enq 0181 831 7433 Dlg 0181 831 7455				
American & Gen	377.37	235.40†	+ 5.10	..
European Inc	115.80	122.90	+ 0.80	0.19
Smaller Cos	109.90	117.00	+ 0.20	1.85
Capital	659.50	701.70	+ 0.60	1.85
Income & Growth #	562.80	598.90	- 0.50	4.23
-do- Accum #	879.30	935.50	- 0.97	4.23
Japan & Gen	52.15	55.36	- 0.40	
Pacific Basin	1416.00	1475.00†	+ 4.00	1.84
-do- Accum	1772.30	1853.00	+ 5.88	1.84
Smaller Cos	152.50	162.60	+ 0.39	1.83
High Yield	1797.00	1853.00†	+ 5.00	3.81
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
European Portfolio	113.19	119.55	+ 0.89	2.34
American Portfolio	154.95	163.57	- 0.41	0.73
Japan Portfolio	157.42	167.35†	- 0.19	0.42
High Income	54.43	57.40†	- 0.08	6.65
Japanese Portfolio	49.76	52.74†	- 0.48	..
Pacific Portfolio	122.79	131.39	- 0.61	0.91
UK Equity	110.15	117.60†	- 0.22	2.84
UK Equity & Bd	64.99	68.87	+ 0.12	5.15
UK Smlr Cos	54.78	58.59	+ 0.13	1.62
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Income	800.53	814.55	..	3.79
Inv Fd Acc	[illegible]	835.37	...	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Fxd Int Sec Inc	164.81	165.47	..	8.84
Fxd Int Sec Acc	172.28	172.98	..	..
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	894.97	908.25	...	3.87
Investment Acc	4253.04	4317.32	...	
Fixed Int Inc	132.74	133.28	...	8.20
Fixed Int Acc	263.78	264.76	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Beckman Intl	94.03	98.88†	...	5.07
Beck Bio-Tech	41.15	44.59	...	..
Acorn Ethical Tst	212.28	222.91	...	0.41
City Fin Assets	86.31	90.83†	..	2.80
City Fin Intl	86.39	90.72†	...	0.06
Friars Hse Cap	202.86	208.69	..	1.62
Buckley Wrld Gth	138.51	148.82†		..
Smw Utilities	77.74	79.41†	+ 0.87	4.51
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	53.52	56.78	+ 1.60	....
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 283				
American Gwth	96.32	102.47	+ 2.86	..
Dragon Growth	50.31	53.80	- 0.26	1.38
Equity High Inc	111.19	117.85	+ 0.24	3.31
-do- Accum	166.91	176.82	+ 0.35	3.31
Extra Income Inc	28.40	29.95†	- 0.05	6.28
Extra Income Acc	33.08	34.82	- 0.08	6.28
European Gwth	78.29	82.81	+ 0.45	0.21
Evergreen	35.00	37.49	+ 0.19	...
General Equity	128.46	135.58	+ 0.06	2.57
Japan Growth	34.60	36.61	- 0.22	...
Pedigree Gwth	78.01	82.55	+ 0.09	1.76
Pac Sm Cos Inc	41.92	44.58†	+ 0.05	1.38
-do- Accum	45.13	47.76	+ 0.05	1.38
Retirement Inc #	33.11	35.22	+ 0.06	5.19
Special Sits	53.13	57.13	+ 0.08	2.77
UK & Overseas	85.87	89.70	+ 0.44	0.58
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 808 000				
Balanced	78.22	82.52	+ 0.18	3.82
Capital	96.78	100.81	+ 0.04	1.97
High Income	55.50	57.81†	- 0.10	6.82
Top 50	69.45	72.34	- 0.11	2.02
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	219.93	228.12†	+ 0.77	4.21
Long Gilt	49.38	51.40†	+ 0.07	5.21
Monthly Inc Plus	57.18	59.57	...	7.52
Preference Share	54.47	56.75†	- 0.09	6.87
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	160.58	167.29†	+ 0.47	5.35
Managed Fund	82.46	85.90†	..	2.63
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	54.91	57.20	+ 0.19	1.48
-do- Accum	65.67	68.41	+ 0.23	1.48
UK & General	117.08	121.97†	- 0.38	2.30
-do- Accum	156.80	163.44†	- 0.42	2.30
UK Growth	234.00	243.78	- 0.73	1.61
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	255.41	266.08	+ 1.27	0.50
Far Eastern Gth	101.44	105.68	- 1.32	0.27
Global Bond	71.80	74.80†	- 0.34	6.87
Japan Growth	90.98	94.78	- 0.81	...
North Amer Gth	294.46	306.78	+ 5.31	...
Oriental Growth	61.24	63.80	- 1.21	0.77
Worldwide Growth	78.30	81.57	+ 0.28	0.32
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.88	91.89†	+ 0.01	6.33
Homemaker Fund	98.39	104.59	+ 0.13	2.86
Dollar Fund	169.95	180.80	+ 0.16	1.74
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	39.70	42.46	...	2.92
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	193.08	205.30†	- 0.30	2.18
Income	85.68	91.10	- 0.25	3.85
European Growth	89.35	94.95	+ 0.08	0.25
Recovery	199.20	211.86	- 0.40	1.92
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1162.30	1182.70	...	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	80.19	85.07	+ 0.34	0.37
Fellowship Tst	118.50	126.00†	+ 0.10	1.16
Income #	324.50	345.20†	+ 0.10	4.02
-do- Accum #	897.30	954.50	+ 0.10	4.02
Smaller Cos	236.60	251.70	+ 0.60	0.73
-do- Accum	295.78	314.57	+ 0.66	0.73
Gilt Portfolio	112.90	120.10	...	1.32
High Inc Port #	96.54	102.70	...	4.07
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1694				
Global Sm Cos	1798.20	1820.50	...	0.57
UK Small Cos	2334.30	2423.30	..	2.83
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8818				
Disc Inc	250.00	257.80	..	...
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	203.00	215.90	+ 0.60	1.50
UK High Inc Inc	220.60	234.80	+ 0.90	3.21
-do- Accum	307.50	327.10	+ 1.50	3.21
UK Prd & F I Inc	64.60	68.57	+ 0.01	5.39
Environtl Opps	123.80	131.70	+ 0.30	0.76
UK Smlr Cos	73.82	78.53	+ 0.33	0.86
Extra Income Inc	53.98	57.38	- 0.13	6.50
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 586				
Convertibles #	24.76	26.34	+ 0.11	5.32
Enterprise	120.80	128.00	+ 0.10	1.95
Equity Income #	167.50	178.00	- 0.50	3.80
European	73.34	77.51	- 0.06	...
Financial	67.22	71.42†	+ 0.06	1.40
Growth & Inc #	343.59	365.00	- 0.09	2.40
High Dist #	213.50	226.60†	- 0.40	3.75
International	415.40	441.40	+ 0.99	0.22
Int Cap Inc	117.40	125.39†	+ 0.30	2.15
Latin American	35.02	37.21	+ 1.04	..
Mgd Gwth Pen	91.63	95.75	...	0.73
Pacific	69.84	74.21	+ 0.65	...
Pref High Inc	25.50	27.08†	+ 0.02	6.64
Tokyo	158.20	167.20	- 1.70	..
UK Smaller Cos	256.20	272.20	+ 1.90	1.10
Japan Sm Cos	262.60	278.10	- 6.30	...
Nth Amer	517.20	547.50	+ 10.20	0.53
UK Inc & Gth	306.80	326.80†	- 1.20	2.27
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Dlgs	125.57	133.73	- 0.50	0.96
Growth Acc	306.03	326.13	- 27.65	0.21
Income	611.24	652.84	- 43.40	5.71
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7281				
Endurance Fd	239.40	254.70	...	1.62
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	108.29	113.99	- 0.62	1.46
Ethical Tst	54.77	57.65	- 0.44	1.06
Far Eastern	237.10	249.58	- 2.74	1.71
High Income	170.32	179.28	+ 0.25	4.04
UK Index Trcking	63.16	66.48	- 0.40	2.54
Intl Growth	142.22	149.70	+ 0.08	1.38
North American	183.15	192.79	- 0.27	7.43
Pelican	171.09	180.09†	- 0.83	2.72
Smaller Cos	74.77	78.71	- 0.08	1.99
Special Sits	88.26	92.91	+ 0.13	2.95
Tst of Inv Tsts	231.46	243.64	+ 0.08	1.57
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	129.45	136.29†	+ 2.30	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	57.76	61.29	+ 0.42	0.47
High Income #	42.63	45.20†	+ 0.39	11.06
Wwd & Gl Opps	51.26	55.12	+ 0.67	...
Zero Preference	48.47	51.43	+ 0.04	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Asset Tst	115.00	122.30†	+ 0.300	1.97
United Charities	341.60	363.30†	+ 0.400	2.25
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree. Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	6.60
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	26.08	27.94†	- 0.12	5.41
Strategic Inc	29.65	30.98†	- 0.08	5.48
Income Funds				
High Income	30.63	32.15†	- 0.01	4.79
Income Plus	164.50	175.00	+ 0.10	3.42
European Income	59.99	63.72	+ 0.19	1.76
Moneybuilder Gwth	37.60	37.98	+ 0.01	2.20
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	32.64	34.82†	+ 0.08	...
American	408.80	434.80	+ 9.20	...
Amer Spec Sits	232.50	247.70	+ 5.30	...
Japan Smaller Cos	19.79	20.98	- 0.54	...
European	288.30	307.80†	+ 1.80	0.44
European Opps	103.20	109.80	+ 0.80	0.52
Global Pfir	37.25	39.72	+ 0.41	0.41
UK Growth	147.28	156.70	+ 0.20	1.24
Growth & Inc	213.80	227.40	+ 0.10	2.10
Intl PEP	57.28	61.02	+ 0.27	1.13
Japan Spec Sits	63.73	67.50	- 1.02	...
Japan	157.30	168.60	- 0.50	...
Managed Intl	417.80	443.50	+ 3.00	0.61
Moneybuilder Plus	75.78	78.30	+ 0.37	0.34
Recovery	72.12	76.69	+ 0.28	1.78
South E Asia	152.40	162.50	- 3.50	1.29
Special Sits	889.40	928.30	+ 20.30	1.29
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	121.87	121.87	+ 0.02	6.40
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	160.10	162.00†	..	1.71
Finsbury Prf Inc #	107.70	108.50	- 0.10	6.09
Cap Pfolio	182.80	184.20	+ 1.20	0.08
General Opps	180.50	181.80†	..	3.06
Growth Inc	45.05	45.55†	- 0.01	1.62
Private Portfolio	538.60	545.30	..	1.18
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 398 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	164.30	175.09	+ 1.80	
High Income	21.69	23.07†	+ 0.18	9.75
Japan Smlr Cos	12.57	13.48†	- 0.53	...
US Smaller Cos	530.30	564.00†	+ 5.40	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	101.80	107.90	+ 2.10	..
-do- Accum	101.80	107.90	+ 2.10	...
Amer Smlr Cos	789.40	816.30	+ 14.00	...
-do- Accum	785.00	836.00	+ 14.30	...
Capital Tst	420.00	446.90†	- 8.90	1.26
-do- Accum	625.30	665.20†	- 10.20	1.26
Contl Smlr Cos	65.67	69.88	+ 0.59	1.03
-do- Accum	69.82	74.74	+ 0.64	1.03
Convertible	149.80	159.40	+ 2.90	5.38
-do- Accum	339.80	361.30	+ 0.70	5.38
Emerging Markets	67.89	72.53	+ 1.11	0.54
-do- Accum	68.43	73.11	+ 1.13	0.54
European	181.20	191.90	+ 1.00	0.40
-do- Accum	192.70	204.10	+ 1.10	0.40
Extra Income	454.10	483.70	- 1.30	3.99
-do- Accum	764.60	813.40	- 2.20	3.99
Financial	227.10	241.80†	+ 1.70	0.94
-do- Accum	243.70	259.60†	+ 1.20	0.94
Gilt Trust	63.18	65.14†	- 0.02	7.04
-do- Accum	104.10	107.30†	...	7.04
Health Fund Inc	298.30	310.10†	+ 3.90	...
-do- Accum	298.30	310.10†	+ 3.90	..
Income & Growth	268.40	285.50	- 1.30	3.54
-do- Accum	439.10	467.10	- 2.30	3.54
Intl Growth	452.40	482.40†	+ 3.40	...
-do- Accum	502.40	535.70†	+ 3.90	..
Japan & Gen	130.60	138.60	- 1.10	.
-do- Accum	131.90	140.00	- 1.10	...
Monthly Inc #	233.20	248.10†	+ 0.10	3.88
-do- Accum #	241.80	257.20†	+ 0.10	3.88
Managed Port Inc	133.00	140.80	+ 0.30	1.28
-do- Accum	146.30	154.00	+ 0.40	1.28
Quarterly Income #	83.77	88.02	- 0.06	5.17
-do- Accum #	78.63	81.82	- 0.09	5.17
Recovery	319.50	341.70	- 3.90	...
-do- Accum	377.10	403.30	- 4.80	...
UK Growth	75.20	80.19	- 0.02	1.79
-do- Accum	83.28	88.00	- 0.06	1.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 716835 Enq 01722 716894				
FP American	76.24	81.05	+ 1.61	...
FP Am Smlr Cos	227.90	243.00	+ 3.90	...
FP Asian Growth	190.80	203.50	- 1.80	...
FP Australian	432.50	460.50	+ 1.50	...

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FP Equity Dist	537.60	573.40†	+ 8.30	1.97
-do- Accum	1227.00	1308.00	+ 1.00	1.97
FP Euro Gth	359.90	383.80	+ 2.50	...
-do- Accum	394.30	420.50	+ 2.70	..
FP Intl Bond	56.54	59.83	- 0.10	3.98
FP Intl Gth Dist	41.74	44.52†	+ 0.35	0.08
-do- Accum	61.52	65.62	+ 0.53	0.08
FP Pac Basin Acc	179.10	191.00†	- 1.60	0.14
FP Income #	70.02	74.67	+ 0.37	4.47
-do- Accum #	254.00	270.90	+ 1.38	4.47
FP Jap Smlr Cos	182.70	194.80	- 2.00	..
FP Monthly Dist #	84.50	90.19†	+ 0.26	4.84
FP Stlg Deposit	100.50	100.50†	...	6.18
FP Tokyo	66.81	71.26	+ 0.09	...
FP UK Focus	50.38	53.74†	+ 0.04	1.50
FP UK Growth	238.30	255.20	+ 0.38	1.54
-do- Accum	492.70	525.50	+ 0.70	1.54
Stewardship Dist	482.10	514.30†	+ 1.70	1.37
-do- Accum	617.30	658.40†	+ 2.10	1.37
Stewdshp Inc Dist #	78.26	83.49	- 0.05	5.16
-do- Accum #	114.00	121.60	- 0.10	5.16
N Am Stshp Dist	157.10	167.40	+ 3.20	..
-do- Accum	169.10	180.20	+ 3.50	...
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	123.60	124.40	+ 0.20	2.90
Inst Ethical Ac #	125.10	125.70	+ 0.20	2.90
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	141.00	150.00†	+ 1.80	0.57
Open Cap Gth Acc	141.00	150.00	+ 1.80	0.13
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	129.00	137.28	+ 0.90	2.67
Cap Gth Idx Acc #	139.70	148.80	+ 1.80	2.67
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	134.20	142.70	+ 1.10	3.88
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	147.30	156.70	+ 1.20	3.88
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 1697				
GANDA	354.40	373.10†	+ 1.00	1.54
Cash	48.28	50.02†	..	4.56
Income Portfolio	82.24	88.57†	+ 0.27	2.85
GA Equity Gth	272.80	290.30	+ 1.80	0.31
GA European Gth	160.40	170.30	+ 1.00	0.24
GA Japan Gth	82.86	87.97	- 0.85	..
GA Nth Amer Gth	290.80	308.50	+ 7.90	0.06
GA Intl Gth	134.40	142.90	+ 1.10	....
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	259.80	277.30	+ 4.80	0.12
European Gth	837.20	888.80	+ 0.10	0.54
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	58.45	61.86	+ 0.11	3.42
-do- Accum	68.22	72.21	+ 0.13	3.42
High Yield #	52.94	55.94	- 0.07	7.18
-do- Accum #	63.06	66.64	- 0.06	7.18
Income Inc	222.00	237.50	+ 0.50	3.74
-do- Accum	262.20	280.50	+ 0.60	3.74
Intl Growth	409.30	433.90	+ 1.50	0.28
Intl Income	111.70	118.39	+ 0.80	2.10
Japan Growth	398.70	422.20	+ 0.40	...
Orient Acc	148.20	158.50	- 2.80	0.19
UK General Inc	222.80	238.20	+ 0.90	1.65
UK General Acc	404.20	432.00	+ 1.60	1.68
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	67.32	72.08	+ 0.06	1.61
UK Spec Sits	117.59	125.70	+ 0.30	1.20
US Growth	229.59	242.60	+ 5.30	...
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	72.57	77.54	+ 0.17	1.75
Practical Inv Inc #	134.82	144.18	+ 1.37	3.34
-do- Accum #	335.36	358.67	+ 3.39	3.34
UK Index	213.58	214.65	- 0.02	2.85
UK Smaller Cos	244.61	261.61†	+ 1.75	0.40
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.82	26.76†	+ 0.01	7.17
High Income	41.34	44.06†	...	3.47
UK Growth & Inc	191.13	203.91†	- 0.08	1.86
Global Bond	27.57	28.58	- 0.07	5.11
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	44.23	47.31	+ 1.10	..
Global Managed	154.49	164.10†	+ 0.81	1.18
Gold & Intl Res	92.44	98.87†	- 0.81	
Global Utilities	168.27	180.22†	+ 1.34	0.46
Overseas Funds				
American	243.89	258.52	+ 4.44	0.39
European	161.84	171.25	+ 0.75	0.47
Euro Sml Opps	255.53	271.85	+ 1.57	..
Amer Emerging	201.33	214.51	+ 2.97	...
Hong Kong	151.90	162.72	- 9.80	1.16
Japan	168.33	178.05	- 2.45	..
Pacific Growth	165.41	177.06	- 2.56	...
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Cash Trust	153.60	153.60	+ 0.02	6.56
Managed Equity	287.79	287.79†	- 0.07	1.58
Long Term Bal	308.25	308.25†	+ 0.32	2.55
Med Term Bal	255.50	255.50†	+ 0.07	2.71
UK Equity	363.20	363.20	- 0.52	2.01
UK Emerging Cos	191.00	191.00	+ 0.22	2.18
American	404.22	404.22	+ 7.33	0.18
Japan	98.26	98.26†	- 0.84	...
European	421.11	421.11	+ 2.51	0.57
Index Linked Gilt	209.54	209.54	- 0.07	2.51
Fixed Interest	200.13	200.13†	+ 0.06	6.63
Asian Emerging	444.83	444.83	+ 6.61	...
Pacific	150.80	150.80	- 0.02	1.44
Emerging Mkts	127.65	127.65	+ 2.53	0.84
Index Strat Japan	109.41	109.41	- 1.14	0.03
-do- Pacific Bin	137.42	137.42	- 1.53	1.83
-do- Cont Europe	227.04	227.04	+ 0.77	1.24
Index Strat USA	246.33	246.33	+ 5.30	1.17
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	138.05	144.73	- 0.04	..
Med Term Bal	122.40	130.21	+ 0.08	...
Long Term Bal	137.63	146.63	- 1.41	...
UK Equity	169.47	180.28	- 0.28	...
UK Emerging Cos	90.22	95.97	+ 0.11	...
American	187.85	199.84	+ 3.64	...
Japan	47.49	50.52	- 0.43	..
European	175.43	186.62	+ 1.12	..
Fixed Interest	103.81	110.43	+ 0.04	.
Index Linked Gilt	93.46	99.42	- 0.04	...
Deposit	92.97	98.89	+ 0.01	..
Broker Unit Trusts				
BotH Intl	165.39	174.09	+ 1.34	0.49
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	757.58	806.34	+ 4.50	...
-do- Accum	860.36	915.70	+ 5.11	...
European Inc	207.59	220.00	+ 0.32	0.41
Amalgam Inc	178.78	190.16	+ 3.32	...
N America Inc	512.83	544.71	+ 5.91	...
Far East Inc	295.03	309.22	- 1.80	0.34
-do- Accum	295.83	314.71	- 1.90	0.34
UK Divid Inc	247.43	263.22	- 5.29	0.98
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9888				
European	685.00	732.80	+ 2.70	..
Gilt & Fixed	139.80	148.30	+ 0.10	5.24
Growth Equity	498.90	533.00	+ 1.50	0.87
Income Trust	180.80	193.10	+ 0.38	3.41
International	219.40	234.30	+ 1.72	..
Japan Trust	94.40	100.80	- 0.10	..
Nth American	440.50	470.60†	+ 5.70	..
Pacific	399.20	426.40†	+ 2.40	0.72
Scandinavian	713.30	762.00	+ 1.40	0.98
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2128				
European Bond	98.33	103.06	+ 0.35	4.56
Global High Inc	94.45	98.04†	+ 0.01	5.30
Stlg Bond Pflo	112.31	116.58	- 0.08	6.31
Cent Mgd Pflo	129.80	137.88†	+ 0.37	4.88
European Pflo	150.26	159.78	+ 1.11	..
World Mkts Pflo	78.80	83.78	+ 0.28	0.70
UK Eq Inc Pflo	170.32	181.10†	+ 1.98	3.22
-do- Accum	261.58	278.24	+ 3.07	3.22
UK Opps	485.20	515.89	+ 2.90	2.52
-do- Accum	583.30	620.89	+ 3.50	2.52
St Vinc High Inc	144.89	147.05	+ 0.56	8.64
UK Emerg Cos	290.70	309.00†	+ 0.30	2.81
Inst UK Sm Co	389.90	406.90	+ 0.50	3.15
Glob Priv Tst	141.98	150.96†	+ 0.78	1.24
-do- Accum	148.45	157.84	+ 0.81	1.24
Inc State Tst	104.42	111.08	+ 1.25	7.54
HK & China Tst	80.22	85.30	- 3.43	...
High Provider	105.93	109.67	- 0.11	4.56
Blue Chip Pflo	287.82	308.54	- 0.09	0.32
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 6050				
Balanced Inc	63.77	67.82†	- 0.23	2.84
Balanced Acc	69.77	73.96	- 0.25	2.84
Growth	38.57	41.56†	- 0.18	1.57
Growth Acc	41.63	44.14	- 0.20	1.57
Income	37.80	40.18†	- 0.07	3.73
Income Acc	42.08	44.56	- 0.08	3.78
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation Tst	33.21	35.86	- 0.13	2.86
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 690 220 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Pfd Acc	53.47	56.73	+ 0.08	2.66
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 494646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	400.40	426.42	+ 0.31	0.81
Best of British	85.96	91.36†	+ 0.05	1.79
UK Smaller Cos	165.68	176.87	+ 1.99	1.69
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	367.89	391.57	- 0.37	2.85
-do- Accum #	1068.82	1139.28	- 1.05	2.85
High Income	397.26	424.86†	- 0.24	3.80
Extra Income #	338.95	360.47	+ 0.92	5.81
Pref & Bond	54.47	57.38†	+ 0.01	7.47
International				
Ethical	136.73	148.22	+ 0.52	1.19
International	352.19	378.98†	+ 2.20	..
Global Bond	53.04	55.80	- 0.19	5.36
Intl Pot Tst	108.14	115.65	+ 1.11	0.60
Global Tech	277.56	295.89†	+ 8.90	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	150.79	161.25	- 0.59	0.81
European	761.08	805.58†	+ 4.11	0.36
European Income #	107.25	113.86	+ 0.38	3.32
Euro Smlr Cos	213.12	228.88†	+ 1.29	0.24
European Value	112.00	119.58†	+ 0.95	...
-do- Accum	121.05	128.11	+ 1.02	.
Japan Trust	144.25	153.44	- 2.12	...
Japan Smlr Cos	125.03	132.84†	- 2.52	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	171.23	182.42†	+ 0.40	..
North American	407.50	432.00	+ 6.89	...
American Smaller	225.34	239.80†	+ 2.92	...
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	148.93	155.95†	- 0.37	1.42
Capital	225.80	236.55	- 0.01	1.20
Dollar	618.51	639.28†	+ 13.19	..
Enterprise Gth	486.51	511.53†	+ 1.16	0.82
European	328.35	341.73	+ 0.51	..
Far East	218.81	226.19	- 2.57	1.57
Financial	1333.29	1386.11†	+ 2.36	1.44
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	28.18	29.31†	- 0.03	8.12
High Yield #	136.57	143.01	+ 0.12	4.05
Income & Growth #	198.56	207.94†	- 0.11	3.04
International	318.50	333.51	+ 1.27	0.45
Japanese General	154.50	161.78	+ 1.97	.
Japan Tech	70.83	74.16	+ 0.11	..
Nat Resources	64.30	67.38	- 0.14	1.03
Portfolio	94.45	98.90	+ 0.16	1.78
Special Sits	239.03	250.29	+ 0.87	0.30
UK Emerging Cos	134.91	141.27†	+ 0.35	1.09
US Smaller Cos	191.34	200.35	+ 1.97	.
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	792.10	834.70	+ 0.90	4.62
UK Growth	802.50	855.20†	- 1.90	1.82
High Income #	139.80	148.10†	+ 0.10	5.81
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	764.30	807.30	+ 16.00	...
European Gwth	188.80	199.90	+ 1.00	...
Japan Gwth	227.00	241.20†	- 2.20	...
Japan Smlr Cos	20.86	22.35	- 0.39	..
Asian	41.28	44.86	- 0.86	0.30
Sing & Malay Gwth	49.88	53.15	+ 0.06	.
Hong Kong Gwth	158.50	169.20	- 8.80	0.34
Global Bond	20.78	21.69	- 0.06	4.47
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	201.90	202.90	- 0.20	2.84
Trkr Index	137.50	141.60	+ 0.39	2.04
THE FOOTSIE FUND	81.89	82.61	- 0.20	2.17
Index Funds-International				
American Index	371.80	373.70	+ 7.99	0.58
Eurotrack 100	238.30	239.50	+ 0.70	1.38
Japan Index	54.89	54.96	- 0.46	0.22
Tiger Index	111.90	114.50	+ 3.30	1.35
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	52.86	53.21	+ 0.08	1.70
General Funds				
Managed Dist	95.26	99.49†	+ 0.13	1.18
Managed	99.10	103.58†	+ 0.10	1.18
Report Child Fnd	128.80	134.90	- 0.20	1.74

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	83.10	86.79†	- 0.11	1.16
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	103.80	108.50	+ 0.10	5.00
Gilt & Fixed Int #	28.65	29.60†	- 0.04	7.34
UK Inc & Gwth	57.84	60.41†	- 0.12	2.63
UK Income #	445.60	465.40†	+ 0.60	3.83
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	77.13	79.85	+ 1.56	
Amer Smlr Cos	198.90	207.83	+ 4.80	
-do- Accum	201.00	209.90	+ 5.10	..
Europe Gth	279.00	290.50	+ 1.30	...
-do- Accum	289.00	300.90	+ 1.40	.
Euro Smaller Cos	50.14	52.29†	+ 0.65	
French Growth	105.50	109.40	+ 0.58	0.29
-do- Accum	114.20	118.50	+ 0.60	0.30
H Kong & China	110.30	114.90	- 5.80	0.28
Intl Growth	73.75	76.82†	+ 0.14	0.45
-do- Accum	75.20	78.34†	+ 0.16	0.45
Japan Gth	21.53	22.44	- 0.16	
-do- Accum	21.53	22.44	- 0.16	
Japan Smaller Cos	21.66	22.81	- 0.65	...
Glob Emg Mkts	90.70	94.73	+ 2.23	.
-do- Accum	91.34	95.80	+ 2.23	..
EE Asia	230.90	241.10	- 7.10	0.34
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	49.26	50.78	- 0.23	6.51
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690448				
UK Income #	129.70	137.20†		2.97
UK Growth	134.60	142.40†		1.48
Euro Growth	112.80	119.00	+ 0.70	1.07
Slater Gwth	222.40	237.20†	+ 1.70	0.85
New Japan	57.84	61.05	- 3.12	..
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	197.20	209.70	+ 3.20	..
Income #	267.33	284.39	+ 0.90	3.85
UK Growth	98.72	105.02	+ 0.32	2.19
Intl Growth	92.17	98.05	- 0.08	0.45
Ecology	115.35	122.71†	+ 0.20	0.79
European	239.37	254.80	+ 1.23	0.51
Far Eastern	254.98	271.00	+ 0.80	..
UK Special Sits	65.54	69.87†	+ 0.12	0.37
Fd of Inv Tsts	58.41	62.39†	+ 0.22	0.43
High Income #	58.87	62.79†	+ 0.14	4.61
Financial Opps	49.90	53.23†	+ 0.16	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7364				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	107.80	111.50†	- 0.20	7.04
Euro Pfd Inc	118.80	126.30	+ 0.90	2.83
-do- Accum	119.00	126.50	+ 0.80	2.83
Gilt Yield	128.50	139.40†		6.35
Global Income	248.30	264.10†	+ 0.30	3.03
High Yield	280.50	292.80	- 0.50	4.68
-do- Accum	658.00	700.00	- 2.20	4.68
Money Market	101.91	101.91	+ 0.01	6.76
Smlr Cos Div	68.71	73.09†	+ 0.27	3.63
Tomorrows Co Ex Acc	1141.00	1158.00	- 6.00	3.32
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	194.80	207.20	+ 2.20	.
Asian Growth	204.80	217.80	- 4.30	0.28
-do- Accum	241.20	256.50	- 5.20	0.28
North American	135.60	144.20	+ 2.20	...
European Special	156.60	166.50	+ 1.10	..
European	220.00	234.00	+ 1.10	0.55
-do- Accum	292.60	311.20	+ 1.40	0.55
Global Eqty Inc	132.10	140.30	- 0.30	1.62
Japan	312.50	332.40	- 3.70	..
Japanese Special	148.60	157.40	- 7.10	
Smaller Cos	162.40	172.70	+ 0.10	0.90
UK Equity Growth	59.90	63.72	- 0.17	1.11
UK Index Inc	401.30	403.30†	- 1.70	2.86
Fleetam Tst	119.50	128.40†	- 3.70	1.67
-do- Accum	122.60	131.80†	- 3.80	1.62
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	368.53	382.05†	+ 1.69	4.58
Esk Growth	116.02	123.43†	+ 11.02	0.58
Inc & Growth	82.82	88.11	- 0.10	3.39
Smaller Cos	105.69	112.44†	+ 0.20	1.45
Euro Spec Sit Inc	62.56	66.55†	+ 0.41	1.79
Euro Spec Sit Acc	66.23	70.45†	+ 0.45	1.79
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	548.30	581.80	- 0.50	1.50
UK Inc/Gth #	584.30	618.90	+ 0.50	3.18
UK Income #	410.80	435.70†	+ 1.20	4.05
UK Sm Cos	322.60	343.60	+ 1.30	1.90
Euro Gwth	182.50	194.10†	+ 1.30	0.15
N Amer Gwth	146.30	155.20	+ 2.60	..
Pacific Growth	7.72	8.19	+ 0.06	0.57
Emg Mkts Gwth	74.39	78.98	+ 1.92	..
Japan Growth	46.65	48.86	- 0.66	..
Dealing: 01377 842626				
Gwth Port Inc	79.12	83.67	+ 0.98	0.63
Gwth Port Acc	80.82	85.47	+ 0.98	0.62
Inc Port Inc	72.96	77.16†	+ 0.85	3.53
Inc Port Acc	84.13	88.97†	+ 0.98	3.41
Wwide Port	62.31	65.89	+ 0.51	.
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01222 448412 Dealing: 01222 888512				
Equity Dist @	707.80	707.80	- 1.40	2.05
-do- Accum @	1496.00	1496.00	- 3.09	2.00
Equity Income #	122.30	122.30†	+ 0.10	4.51

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REGENT STREET

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Tactical Allocn @	81.12	81.12†	- 0.49	5.70
European @	172.58	172.50	+ 0.40	0.06
Far Eastern @	170.80	170.80†	- 3.40	...
Fixed Interest @	58.47	58.47†	- 0.02	7.30
Gilt @	96.87	96.87†	+ 0.06	6.05
Global Growth @	83.48	83.48	- 0.07	0.01
Intl Bond @	48.43	48.43	- 0.20	5.53
Japanese @	55.88	55.88†	- 0.46	..
North American @	278.00	278.00	+ 4.40	.
Pacific Growth @	85.91	85.91†	- 1.32	0.34
Pacific Index @	35.04	35.04†	- 0.62	2.77
UK Index @	91.94	91.94†	- 0.17	2.80
UK Recovery @	132.70	132.70†	+ 0.20	1.42
UK Smaller Cos @	181.10	181.10	+ 0.59	1.88
US Index @	107.60	107.60	+ 2.00	0.75
European Index @	108.90	108.90	+ 0.20	1.06
Japan Index @	28.33	28.33	- 0.15	...
Worldwide @	109.40	109.40	.	1.08
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	67.32	71.99	- 0.14	2.11
Income	79.90	85.45	+ 0.03	3.53
Far East	34.29	36.67	- 0.85	.
North American	165.40	178.30	+ 3.40	...
Global	93.02	99.48	+ 0.65	0.32
European	119.00	126.80	+ 0.30	0.83
Japan	69.17	73.74	- 0.90	..
Intl Currency Bd	55.60	58.89†	- 0.25	5.06
SE Asia	67.81	72.31	- 2.41	0.59
UK Cap Growth	120.10	128.40†	- 0.10	1.82
Recovery Trust	98.83	105.70†	+ 0.20	1.91
Managed	75.89	81.15	+ 0.11	1.62
Cash	51.69	51.69	+ 0.01	6.48
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 399 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	499.00	530.30†	...	1.83
-do- Accum	1199.00	1295.00	.	1.83
Contl Euro Gth	93.62	99.55†	+ 0.38	0.01
-do- Accum	101.30	106.70	+ 0.40	0.01
Extra Inc #	354.60	377.30	+ 1.30	3.40
Extra Inc Acc #	1004.00	1069.00	+ 3.00	3.40
FTSE 100 Inc	151.10	160.80	- 0.10	2.03
FTSE 100 Acc	161.00	171.30	- 0.10	2.03
German Gth	165.80	174.40	+ 0.90	0.08
-do- Accum	173.60	182.60	+ 0.90	0.08
Growth Port	752.10	800.20	+ 0.80	0.16
-do- Accum	792.20	842.80	+ 0.80	0.16
High Interest Inc	108.80	113.00†	- 0.20	6.69
High Interest Acc	122.50	127.00	- 0.30	6.69
Hi Reserve Inc #	122.50	130.40	+ 0.10	5.23
Hi Reserve Acc #	139.90	148.80	+ 0.10	5.23
Income Inc #	680.90	724.40†	+ 1.20	3.00
Income Acc #	2092.00	2138.00	+ 3.00	3.02
Income Port	664.00	708.40†	+ 6.20	3.89
-do- Accum	778.30	829.00	+ 7.40	3.89
Japan Growth	78.09	83.08	- 0.75	..
-do- Accum	78.37	83.38	- 0.74	..
Master Trust	75.47	80.29	+ 0.15	1.14
-do- Accum	88.67	94.34	+ 0.18	1.14
Millennium Acc	107.30	114.20	..	2.19
N American Gth	305.08	324.59	+ 7.30	0.02
-do- Accum	353.00	375.60	+ 8.50	0.02
Nth Am Sm Co Rec	234.80	249.80	+ 3.00	.
-do- Accum	239.60	254.90	+ 3.00	..
Pacific Basin	179.90	191.40	- 1.10	0.88
-do- Accum	191.80	204.10	- 1.20	0.88
Safety First Acc	112.50	118.50	..	1.51
Do until 2/10/98 ‡	109.20			
Small Cos Rec	556.80	586.20†	+ 1.10	1.90
-do- Accum	781.90	823.10	+ 1.40	1.90
UK Eq Gth	199.50	212.30	+ 0.10	2.17
UK Eq Inc #	158.40	168.60†	+ 0.60	3.62
UK Growth	126.70	134.80	+ 0.10	1.60
-do- Accum	161.60	172.00	..	1.60
Worldwide Gth	387.50	412.30	+ 3.00	0.36
-do- Accum	573.30	609.90	+ 4.49	0.36
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	112.25	119.08	+ 2.42	0.30
General	128.23	137.58†	- 0.07	2.20
Income	87.04	93.38	+ 0.03	4.20
International	77.10	82.72	+ 0.80	0.40
Japan	43.97	47.07	- 0.25	
Tst of Inv Trusts	83.09	89.15†	+ 0.53	1.10
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	629.40	664.50	+ 18.60	0.33
-do- Accum	789.20	833.20	+ 13.20	0.33
Amer Recovery	818.90	868.80†	+ 14.30	0.14
-do- Accum	947.10	1001.70†	+ 15.70	0.14
Amer Smlr Cos	199.40	201.30	+ 3.80	.
-do- Accum	194.60	205.70	+ 3.80	..
Australasian	194.70	205.80	.	2.30
-do- Accum	248.00	263.30	- 0.20	2.30
Capital	1077.30	1138.20	...	2.66
-do- Accum	1318.30	1394.10	...	2.66
Charifund	925.49	934.70†	+ 0.50	5.22
-do- Accum	5130.00	5160.20†	+ 2.80	5.22
Commodity	402.30	425.40	- 0.30	0.79
-do- Accum	596.10	630.20	- 0.50	0.78
Compound Gth	1290.80	1365.80†	- 3.10	2.43
-do- Accum	1459.90	1543.80†	- 3.50	2.43
Corporate Bond	28.22	28.44†	- 0.02	6.49
Dividend	52.50	55.58	...	4.36
-do- Accum	241.90	259.00	+ 0.10	4.36
Equity Income	371.00	392.30	+ 0.80	5.07
-do- Accum	537.80	569.50	+ 1.10	5.07
Euro & General	736.50	781.08	- 1.10	0.64
-do- Accum	953.20	1008.10	- 1.40	0.64
Euro Dividend #	94.80	99.40	+ 0.50	3.32
-do- Accum #	129.20	138.30	+ 0.60	3.32

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Euro Smlr Cos	58.10	61.40	- 0.10	0.50
-do- Accum	58.30	61.50	- 0.10	0.50
Extra Yield	550.40	582.00	- 0.50	4.76
-do- Accum	1940.80	2052.30	- 1.70	4.76
Fund of Inv Tsts	770.80	815.10	+ 5.10	1.56
-do- Accum	1503.80	1590.20	+ 10.00	1.56
General	85.30	90.10	- 0.40	3.27
-do- Accum	259.00	274.00	- 1.20	3.27
Gilt Income	67.65	67.77	- 0.04	6.00
-do- Accum	216.61	217.00	- 0.12	6.00
Gold	45.50	48.10	..	0.83
-do- Accum	54.90	58.00	..	0.83
High Income	39.90	42.20	- 0.10	4.27
-do- Accum	177.40	187.70	- 0.40	4.27
Intl Growth	89.40	94.50	+ 0.20	0.78
-do- Accum	159.20	168.30	+ 0.30	0.78
International Inc	123.10	130.20†	+ 0.80	4.15
-do- Accum	204.47	216.20†	+ 1.37	4.15
Japan & Gen	27.30	28.88†	- 0.50	
-do- Accum	29.30	30.90†	- 0.50	
Japan Smlr Cos	92.00	97.10†	- 3.00	
-do- Accum	92.00	97.80†	- 3.00	
Managed Bonds	28.90	30.50	...	1.45
Managed Income	33.90	35.60†	...	4.20
Midland	65.70	69.50†	+ 0.40	2.86
-do- Accum	237.00	250.60†	+ 1.30	2.86
Pension Ex	1262.70	1394.29†	- 1.00	3.44
Recovery	54.90	58.10	- 0.10	2.67
-do- Accum	96.70	102.40	- 0.20	2.67
Second General	84.00	88.80	- 0.20	3.75
-do- Accum	235.50	249.00	- 0.60	3.75
Smaller Cos	69.10	73.10	+ 0.20	2.71
-do- Accum	147.00	155.40	+ 0.40	2.71
Sth East Asia	280.30	296.40	- 5.30	1.94
-do- Accum	379.30	401.80	- 7.20	1.94
Treasury	25.01	25.12†		6.80
Trustee	50.60	53.50†	+ 0.10	4.69
-do- Accum	229.90	243.10†	+ 0.40	4.69
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 531				
European Growth	125.00	132.97†	+ 0.40	0.53
Intl Bond	60.41	63.45†	+ 0.18	3.27
Intl Equity Growth	92.59	98.43†	+ 0.43	0.65
N Amer Growth	167.55	177.71	+ 2.94	0.69
Special Sits Growth	33.31	35.43	+ 0.01	2.65
UK Growth	549.21	584.37†	+ 0.13	2.45
-do- Accum	774.57	824.01	+ 0.19	2.45
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1447.50	1465.90	.	2.90
Income #	1134.70	1152.50	..	4.40
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	176.30	180.20†	..	3.63
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Income #	101.90	104.10†	- 0.30	6.15
Investment Pflo	281.80	298.10	..	2.06
-do- Accum	244.60	252.10	- 0.10	2.06
UK Select Pflo	189.00	194.90	- 0.60	1.96
-do- Accum	232.80	238.80	- 0.70	1.96
UK 100 Cos	144.90	144.90	- 0.90	2.04
-do- Accum	150.70	150.70	- 0.90	2.04
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01284 364 842				
Managed Tst	76.84	81.74	..	2.95
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4848				
Intl Income	97.31	103.30	+ 0.80	4.01
European	121.40	128.90	+ 0.50	0.35
Income #	96.93	102.90†	- 0.60	4.26
Nth American	125.00	132.70	+ 3.00	0.09
Far East	150.50	159.80	- 1.90	..
Japan	54.45	57.80	- 0.49	
Emrging Mkts	87.32	93.39	+ 0.73	0.49
Intl Growth	144.60	153.50†	+ 1.70	0.34
UK Growth	140.10	148.70†	- 0.20	2.60
UK Smlr Co	66.86	70.88†	+ 0.11	1.75
Asia Pacific	30.17	32.27	- 0.62	0.90
Glob Gwth PEP	71.49	75.87†	+ 0.65	0.80
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	107.90	114.80†	+ 1.20	...
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 487 5966				
Income	561.15	596.97	+ 1.28	3.11
Global Inc	86.74	92.28	+ 0.34	2.70
Brit Leaders Inc	439.58	467.64	+ 1.49	1.70
Intl Leaders	274.36	291.87	+ 2.14	0.96
PAM Mg Bal Gth	73.94	76.98	+ 0.89	0.22
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	345.10	363.80	+ 7.300	...
-do- Accum	369.00	389.00	+ 7.800	..
American Opps	141.80	150.70†	+ 1.300	.
-do- Accum	143.60	152.60†	+ 1.300	
British Blue Chip	117.20	124.60†	+ 0.100	2.42
-do- Accum	156.50	165.39†	+ 0.100	2.42
Cash	100.30	100.30†	..	6.72
-do- Accum *	155.90	155.90†		6.72
Emerging Mkts	137.20	147.50	+ 3.000	0.21
-do- Accum	139.00	149.50	+ 2.900	0.21
European Growth	388.30	412.20	+ 2.000	0.13
-do- Accum	424.90	448.90	+ 2.100	0.13
European Income	99.80	105.50	+ 0.300	3.84
-do- Accum	150.40	158.90	+ 0.500	3.84
General	688.80	733.00	+ 4.000	2.19
-do- Accum	1437.00	1528.00	+ 8.000	2.19
Global Bond	128.30	132.80†	- 0.20	4.70
-do- Accum	175.70	184.60†	- 0.40	4.70
Gold & General	131.30	140.60	- 0.50	0.51
-do- Accum	135.90	145.40	- 0.50	0.51
Govt Securities	100.50	103.60	...	5.35
-do- Accum	221.10	227.90	.	5.35
High Yield Bd	108.40	111.00	..	6.14
-do- Accum	121.50	124.50	+ 0.100	6.14
Income	229.80	244.30†	+ 0.900	3.68
-do- Accum	397.80	422.30†	+ 1.500	3.68
Inc Portfolio #	125.60	133.20†	+ 0.300	4.90
-do- Accum #	143.18	151.70†	+ 0.300	4.90
Intl Opps	619.10	660.40	+ 0.800	0.75
-do- Accum	841.20	897.30	+ 1.100	0.75
Japan	145.20	154.80	- 0.30	
-do- Accum	149.10	158.90	- 0.20	.
New Europe	277.80	298.30	+ 0.900	0.95
-do- Accum	291.60	311.00	+ 0.900	0.95
Pacific	77.89	83.07	- 0.48	0.27
-do- Accum	84.01	89.61	- 0.48	0.27
Recovery	538.90	574.80†	+ 2.100	1.58
-do- Accum	721.40	769.50†	+ 2.800	1.58
UK Smaller Cos	67.26	71.85	+ 0.320	1.41
-do- Accum	78.87	84.13	+ 0.370	1.41
Portfolio	105.89	112.30†	+ 0.600	2.65
-do- Accum	133.30	141.50†	+ 0.700	2.65
Managed Gth	136.80	143.10	+ 0.800	1.77
Managed Inc	135.80	141.10	+ 0.280	3.82
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
01707 662 233				
Europgrowth Plus	181.67	193.27	+ 0.75	0.12
Portfolio	91.54	97.38	+ 0.05	1.23
UK Income Inc	111.68	118.82	+ 0.31	3.98
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	76.22	79.81†	+ 0.21	2.40
-do- Accum	86.29	90.36†	+ 0.23	2.40
British Tst	128.40	134.40	+ 0.50	1.94
-do- Accum	156.90	164.30	+ 0.50	1.94
Corp Bond Inc	103.90	107.70†	- 0.20	6.18
-do- Accum	113.60	117.70†	- 0.30	6.18
Extra High Inc	82.87	86.77†	+ 0.04	5.79
-do- Accum #	188.90	197.80†	+ 0.10	5.79
FTSE 100 Acc	88.26	92.42	- 0.23	1.96
FTSE 100 Dist	81.22	85.05	- 0.21	1.96
Gilt & Fxd Int	59.08	61.39	- 0.05	6.01
-do- Accum	198.10	206.10	- 0.27	6.01
High Yield	281.10	294.30†	+ 0.30	5.78
-do- Accum #	827.00	866.00†	+ 1.00	5.78
Household Names	112.50	113.10	- 0.20	1.38
Income	390.60	409.00	+ 0.50	3.90
-do- Accum #	950.10	994.80	+ 1.30	3.90
Money Market UT	49.24	49.25†	..	6.31
-do- Accum	87.34	87.35†	...	6.31
Monthly Income	113.50	118.90†	+ 0.10	4.26
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	163.60	174.00	- 0.40	1.90
European Growth	164.30	174.26	- 0.30	
Gilt & Fixed	112.00	118.80		5.91
Income	130.80	138.90	+ 0.20	3.72
Japan Growth	36.65	38.85	- 0.06	.
Managed	93.85	99.84	- 0.10	2.40
Money Market	101.10	107.20		5.09
North American	133.00	140.80	+ 0.60	...
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	148.20	157.70	- 0.30	1.90
European Growth	154.20	163.40	- 0.30	
Gilt & Fixed Int	104.60	110.90	...	5.94
Income	127.70	135.90	+ 0.20	3.73
Japan Growth	38.57	38.87	- 0.06	..
Managed	90.21	95.97	- 0.07	2.38
Money Market	93.20	98.82		5.09
North American	119.20	126.40	+ 0.60	..
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	146.90	156.30	- 0.30	1.90
European Growth	150.60	159.70	- 0.30	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	94.08	99.75	- 0.03	5.94
Income	124.20	132.10	+ 0.20	3.72
Japan Growth	37.59	39.85	- 0.06	..
Managed	92.98	98.93	- 0.07	2.38
Money Market	84.10	89.16	...	5.12
North American	133.90	141.30	+ 0.60	.
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	579.40	613.30	+ 11.20	.
European Gth Inc	621.70	660.30	+ 4.88	.
-do- Accum	628.50	667.50	+ 4.88	..
Intl Gwth	256.80	272.00†	+ 3.40	..
UK Equity Inc	258.40	274.40†	+ 0.70	3.74
Do. Accum	365.90	388.50†	+ 0.90	3.74
UK Growth Inc	151.40	161.90	- 0.30	2.97
-do- Accum	157.60	169.50	- 0.40	2.97
UK Intl Tckr Inc	232.30	247.50	.	2.63
-do- Accum	293.70	313.10		2.63
US Eq Ind Tck Inc	356.20	376.70	+ 8.80	0.90
Japan Tracker	50.67	53.45†	- 0.61	..
Asian Tracker	152.60	165.10†	- 2.50	0.41
Mngd Pfolio Inc	209.30	223.00	+ 1.80	1.59
Mngd Pfolio Acc	232.00	248.00	+ 1.10	1.59
Deposit Inc	100.42	100.42†	+ 0.01	6.80
Europa	257.60	276.40	+ 3.40	..
Genesis	223.70	242.90†	+ 0.20	2.30
High Income	20.56	21.85†	- 0.04	10.00
Japan Growth	77.49	82.20	- 0.90	..

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 033				
Acumen	118.80	121.40†	.	1.88
Acumen Inc	105.90	108.20†		1.88
Acumen Reserve	107.40	108.40†	+ 0.10	6.41
-do- Inc	78.46	79.25†	+ 0.09	6.41
American Growth	82.02	83.85	+ 1.24	.
Equity Income #	124.80	128.20	...	3.75
European	95.42	97.28	+ 1.00	.
Smaller Cos	98.29	103.80†	+ 0.40	1.31
W'wide Eqty	84.71	86.54	+ 0.59	..
Global Bond	41.94	41.47†	- 0.07	4.68
UK Growth	129.40	133.50	- 0.30	1.11
Pacific Growth	81.15	83.32	- 0.77	2.18
Japan Growth	81.58	83.01	+ 0.22	.
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 380 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	182.44	194.08	- 0.67	1.75
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	153.80	161.90	+ 2.60	0.14
European Dist	179.10	188.50†	+ 0.60	0.38
Far East Dist	136.50	143.70	- 0.50	.
Global Care Dist	98.60	103.79	+ 0.23	0.53
Oasis Dist	1116.90	1175.70	+ 3.70	0.26
-do- Accum	1453.30	1529.80	+ 4.80	0.26
UK Dist	510.50	537.40†	- 3.20	1.50
-do- Accum	1063.20	1119.20	+ 0.80	1.50
UK Extra Inc Dist	106.90	112.50	+ 0.10	3.17
Wwide Dist	122.00	128.40†	+ 0.30	.
Wwide Inc Dist	96.61	101.69†	+ 0.04	1.38
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	92.37	97.40	+ 0.55	0.32
Fund of Funds Inc	76.37	80.69	+ 0.15	1.24
North America Inc	80.05	84.49	+ 1.55	0.11
UK Equity Gth Inc	84.54	89.22†	+ 0.21	1.79
-do- Accum	93.78	98.98	+ 0.24	1.79
UK General Inc	78.36	82.70†	+ 0.03	1.95
-do- Accum	83.95	88.89	+ 0.04	1.95
UK Glt/Fx Int Inc	49.35	51.97†	+ 0.04	6.04
UK Income Inc	78.20	83.59†	- 0.02	2.67
UK Smlr Cos Inc	128.70	136.80†	+ 0.70	1.08
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	63.41	67.45†	+ 0.98	..
-do- Accum	63.91	67.98†	+ 1.00	
Bond	132.13	140.56	- 0.14	4.96
Cash Income	58.82	90.02†		6.31
-do- Accum	72.56	72.55†	+ 0.01	6.31
Challenger	87.25	90.16†	+ 0.53	1.34
Distribution	122.63	130.45	+ 0.26	2.45
European	69.95	74.61	+ 0.29	
Foundation	124.24	132.17	- 1.64	1.61
General Inc	258.84	275.36	+ 0.94	1.02
General Acc	264.36	281.23	+ 0.96	1.02
Growth Inc	161.24	171.53†	- 0.06	1.65
Growth Acc	168.54	179.29†	- 0.08	1.65
Higher Income Inc	40.17	42.73	+ 0.12	5.04
-do- Accum	50.92	54.17	+ 0.15	5.04
High Yield Bond #	96.08	108.82	+ 0.02	7.60
Income	329.07	350.07†	+ 5.18	2.96
Intrepid	160.48	167.16	.	1.85
Intl Gwth	42.58	45.29	+ 0.48	
Japan	25.15	26.75	- 0.24	
Oriental Inc	118.29	125.83	+ 0.36	0.17
-do- Accum	122.63	130.45	+ 0.36	0.17
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2555				
High Income #	55.47	58.70†	+ 0.13	5.80
UK Growth	133.10	140.60		2.58
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	153.56	161.64	+ 0.33	0.98
UK Equity	201.97	212.60	- 0.47	2.45
UK Equity Income	184.62	194.34	- 0.06	2.84
UK Smaller Cos	163.55	172.16	+ 0.77	1.25
UK Equity Growth	168.39	177.15†	- 0.25	1.51
UK Index Trckg	201.51	212.68	- 0.20	2.29
Intl Index Trckg	187.52	197.91	+ 1.92	0.68
International	298.61	314.33†	+ 1.45	0.78
European	303.86	319.85	+ 1.69	0.03
Pan European	205.93	216.77	- 0.05	0.92
Nth American	298.66	314.38†	+ 5.29	0.30
N Amer Smlr Cos	330.13	347.51	+ 4.21	
Japanese	74.22	78.13	- 1.10	0.18
Pacific	175.32	184.55	- 1.52	1.52
South East Asian	184.29	193.99†	- 2.59	1.89
Sterling Bond	107.28	112.84†	- 0.08	6.23
Intl Bond	123.75	130.26	- 0.51	4.03
Gilt & Convertible	117.56	123.75	- 0.05	5.57
Property	92.38	97.25	+ 0.05	5.34
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	442.20	475.00	+ 2.70	0.36
-do- Accum	470.00	504.90	+ 3.00	0.36
Japan Inc	81.75	86.59†	- 0.32	.
Nth American Inc	192.10	203.20	+ 4.20	0.06
Worldwide Inc	202.60	214.80	+ 1.60	0.02
Hong Kong Inc	158.40	169.70	- 8.10	0.89
Swiss Equities Inc	114.10	121.80	+ 0.40	
Wwide Bond Inc	67.11	70.90	- 0.02	5.26
Emrging Asia Inc	135.40	146.00	- 0.19	0.41
-do- Accum	136.00	146.50	- 0.10	0.41
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.83	50.83†	+ 0.01	6.26
Thailand Inc	45.48	49.42†	+ 5.05	2.58
New Zealand Inc	94.59	101.60†	+ 2.26	3.02
Int Mngd PEP Inc	82.21	87.98	+ 0.22	0.56
Latin Am Cmp Inc	77.85	83.69	+ 3.81	0.71
UK All Sh Idx Inc	84.35	85.67	- 0.10	3.22
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Blue	88.46	94.13†	+ 1.09	
Global Portfolio	77.10	82.48	+ 0.88	.
Way Global Bal	68.23	72.58	+ 0.90	.
Marsh Global Gth	66.24	70.24	+ 0.31	0.15
AMR Bal Gwth Inc	127.60	136.50	+ 0.10	0.75
Temple Equity Inc	53.65	58.46	+ 0.21	1.45
Hartley Growth	146.40	155.70	+ 1.10	0.51
Intl Growth Inc	78.84	84.32†	+ 1.39	.
IPS Portfolio Inc	105.70	111.90	+ 2.20	
Roxburgh Strat Gth	78.96	84.45†	+ 0.20	0.17
UFC Growth	72.51	77.55	+ 0.12	0.69
Chartfield Pod of Fds	56.36	58.74	+ 0.16	
For PM Unit Trust see GA Unit Trust				
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	331.30	352.40	+ 0.30	1.78
-do- Accum	740.10	787.30	+ 0.60	1.78
Growth	214.10	225.20	- 0.10	2.15
Income	323.60	344.20†	+ 0.80	3.36
Intl Equity	298.80	318.90	+ 4.20	0.41
-do- Accum	336.70	358.10	+ 4.70	0.41
Equity Income #	88.86	94.52	+ 1.68	4.54
Equity Growth	113.10	120.30	..	1.59
New Europe	125.70	133.70	+ 0.70	.
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	775.55	828.28†	- 2.24	0.32
-do- Accum	783.49	836.76	- 2.26	0.32
Income	536.15	573.43†	- 0.22	2.72
Wwide Recovery	508.28	543.62	- 0.66	0.47
Amer Growth Inc	362.00	384.53	+ 0.50	0.01
-do- Accum	362.00	384.53	+ 0.50	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	303.60	324.71	- 1.47	0.18
Far Estn Gwth Inc	259.73	277.79	+ 0.71	1.13
-do- Accum	262.97	281.26	+ 0.72	1.13
Euro Gwth Inc	230.11	245.39	- 0.77	0.01
-do- Accum	230.91	248.24	- 0.77	0.01
UK Growth Inc	137.68	147.20	- 0.20	2.39
-do- Accum	151.32	161.79	- 0.22	2.39
High Income	140.40	150.09	+ 0.07	3.07
Jap Gwth Inc	147.42	157.67	- 1.38	0.01
-do- Accum	147.42	157.67	- 1.38	0.01
PEP Bond	63.67	66.39	- 0.13	7.09
PEP Growth	166.62	177.96	- 0.25	0.63
Asian Smr Mkts Inc	97.92	104.73	- 2.22	0.69
-do- Accum	98.24	105.07	- 2.23	0.69
Amer Smlr Co Inc	242.70	258.44†	+ 1.24	0.01
-do- Accum	242.70	258.44	+ 1.24	0.01
Global Bond	53.68	58.62	- 0.15	5.30
UK Smaller Cos Inc	117.25	125.41	+ 0.12	1.92
-do- Accum	127.01	135.84	+ 0.13	1.92
Lat Am Gwth Inc	38.96	41.67	+ 0.92	0.01
-do- Accum	39.59	42.35	+ 0.94	0.01
World Inc PEP #	49.31	52.18	..	3.71
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3827				
American	161.97	172.31†	+ 1.60	.
European	114.51	121.82	+ 1.36	
Global	59.93	63.75	+ 1.10	
Pacific	44.84	47.53†	+ 1.61	.
UK Inc & Gth	93.92	99.92	+ 1.11	1.36
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 0171 588 6890				
Asia	43.73	46.35†	+ 1.16	.
Emerg Mkts	48.82	51.80	+ 0.54	0.31
Euro Fund	49.19	52.19	+ 0.50	
Fund of Funds	215.67	227.02	+ 1.82	0.03
High Income #	59.35	62.47†	+ 0.13	5.60
Performance	52.75	55.97†	+ 0.49	
PREMIER PORTFOLIO MGRS LTD				
01483 456 832				
Special Sits	230.00	246.00	+ 0.80	0.52
Dividend	120.90	128.30	+ 0.30	3.46
Intl Gth & Inc	267.50	284.90	+ 4.50	1.39
UK & Gen	56.61	60.55	+ 0.28	1.13
Fund of Funds	80.62	86.44†	+ 0.79	.
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	197.89	205.67	- 0.70	2.12
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	150.00	159.20	+ 1.70	2.05
Conv & Gilt	133.00	141.50	+ 0.40	3.88
Euro Spc Sit Acc	119.70	127.40	+ 1.70	
Extra Income	212.00	225.50†	+ 0.40	4.05
-do- Accum	288.50	306.90	+ 0.50	4.05
Far East	319.10	339.50†	+ 1.20	0.98
-do- Accum	326.50	347.40	+ 1.30	0.98
Global Income	30.41	32.27	+ 0.12	4.29
High Income	160.00	170.20	+ 0.38	3.99
-do- Accum	212.30	225.90†	+ 0.49	3.99
International	234.10	249.00†	+ 2.30	0.14
-do- Accum	244.30	259.90	+ 2.40	0.14
Pref & Fxd Int	50.98	54.24	+ 0.06	6.04
Recovery	101.60	108.10	- 0.10	2.30
Special Sits	165.50	176.10	+ 0.10	1.49
-do- Accum	185.80	197.70		1.49
Technology	801.20	852.30	+ 18.90	
UK Blue Chip	104.60	111.20	- 0.10	2.75
-do- Accum	125.30	133.22	- 0.10	2.75
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 406000 Client Enq: 0345 635500				
Managed Tst	48.94	50.72	- 0.07	1.72
Cash Haven Inc	102.00	102.50	+ 0.02	6.17
Cash Haven Acc	124.42	125.03	+ 0.01	6.17
Dist Trust Inc	116.87	121.11†	+ 0.03	4.92
Dist Trust Acc	137.50	142.49	+ 0.06	4.92
Global Growth	115.13	122.48	- 0.04	0.69
Equity Inc	102.71	109.27	+ 0.18	3.99
Equity	1042.19	1108.71†	- 0.64	1.78
European	320.45	340.36	+ 0.76	0.24
High Income	105.31	112.03†	+ 0.17	4.68
Intl Gth	231.24	246.00	+ 0.11	1.08
Intl Sm Co	97.86	104.11†	- 0.08	0.84
Japanese	135.12	140.02	- 2.86	.
Mgd Income Tst #	50.51	52.20†	- 0.07	7.55
Nth Amer	290.42	308.82	+ 4.23	0.97
Pacific Mkts	86.54	91.75	- 1.22	1.41
Premier Inc	49.87	51.90†	+ 0.04	6.03
Sm Cos	117.37	124.86†	+ 0.29	1.66
Spec Sits	146.89	156.27	+ 0.11	1.70
UK Growth	176.70	187.98	- 0.16	1.65
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	96.25	101.21	+ 0.53	4.54
Investment Trust	125.18	131.63	+ 0.85	0.38
UK Smaller Cos	120.84	127.07	+ 0.17	1.61
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	411.50	436.50†	- 0.70	2.32
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000 Client Services: 0800 124 314				
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	39.49	41.24	+ 1.90	
Cash	48.61	50.69	+ 0.01	5.17
Emerging Mkts	47.36	49.48	+ 0.77	.
Europe	72.86	75.09	+ 0.89	..
Global Fixed Inc #	48.66	51.86	- 0.18	4.19
Japan	32.07	33.49	- 0.08	
North America	83.14	86.82	+ 0.90	
UK	77.96	81.31	+ 0.97	0.24

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc #	71.87	75.05	+ 0.92	3.08
UK Fixed Int #	54.29	56.69	- 0.05	6.73
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	57.54	58.82	+ 0.70	..
Pep Inc Port #	58.28	60.28	+ 0.61	2.75
Five Arrows Global Investment Funds				
A Shares				
Asian Opps ‡	40.08		- 0.05	
Asia Pacific ‡	38.71		- 0.47	1.27
Europe ‡	46.18	.	+ 0.26	.
Japan ‡	43.20		- 0.28	
Latin America ‡	42.10	.	+ 1.94	
North America ‡	47.98	...	+ 1.09	
UK Eq Income #	49.02		+ 0.30	3.97
UK Major Cos ‡	47.94	.	+ 0.15	1.02
UK Smaller Cos ‡	52.86	.	+ 0.21	1.06
For Royal Life Fd Mgmt see Royal Sun Alliance				
ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE UT MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0870 601 6183 Dealing: 0870 601 6083				
Royal & Sun Alliance Trusts				
Equity	1301.00	1391.00	- 2.00	1.58
Equity Income #	134.80	144.10	+ 0.10	4.12
European	210.90	226.00	+ 4.80	0.15
High Inc Bond	51.01	51.09	- 0.05	6.11
Portfolio	128.50	137.40	+ 0.50	1.08
UK Index Trckg	237.60	251.40	- 0.10	3.19
UK Leading Cos	100.30	106.90	+ 0.60	1.98
UK Smaller Cos	139.30	150.50	+ 0.20	1.16
Royal Life Trusts				
High Inc Dist	196.90	209.60	+ 0.20	3.37
Intl Cautionary	66.95	70.75†	+ 0.24	4.34
Intl Growth	86.93	92.44	+ 0.87	.
Intl Spec	76.56	81.44	+ 0.37	
Managed	206.00	221.50	+ 1.10	0.88
Pacific Basin	62.13	66.27	- 0.82	0.39
United States	165.50	175.40	+ 2.40	0.30
Sun Alliance Trusts				
European	178.00	190.30	+ 3.90	0.17
Far East	129.90	138.90	- 1.40	..
North America	243.50	260.40	+ 4.70	
Wwide Bond	55.16	58.53	- 0.24	4.31
Broker Trusts				
Ppg Intl Equity	82.70	88.45	+ 0.35	
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	241.00	255.80	+ 5.50	1.04
European Growth	188.70	200.60	+ 2.70	1.03
Far East Growth	108.70	116.80	+ 5.90	1.21
Japan Growth	92.76	98.63†	- 0.42	0.54
Special Sits	264.40	281.20†	+ 2.28	1.61
UK Growth	124.50	132.40	+ 1.70	2.58
Intl Growth	312.80	332.80†	+ 5.00	1.74
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	129.60	137.10	- 1.50	0.70
Gt Euro Prog Inc	516.10	546.10	+ 3.10	0.70
-do- Accum	809.80	856.90	+ 4.90	0.70
Growth Inc	172.50	182.50	+ 1.30	0.09
-do- Accum	177.60	187.90	+ 1.40	0.09
International Inc	456.50	483.10	+ 3.90	0.39
-do- Accum	633.30	670.20	+ 5.50	0.39
Nth Am & Intl Inc	491.00	519.60	- 3.50	0.83
UK Gen Prog Inc	299.30	316.78	+ 0.90	1.58
-do- Accum	346.80	367.00	+ 1.10	1.58
UK High Inc Inc	177.20	187.50	+ 0.30	4.80
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	92.50	98.40	- 1.23	0.75
European Gwth	116.37	123.79	+ 0.95	1.00
Global Bd	59.92	63.28	..	5.00
Japan	45.53	48.43	- 0.33	.
UK Gwth	105.03	111.73	- 0.20	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smlr Cos	184.20	196.00	+ 1.90	
Cash	142.40	142.40		6.56
China Dragon	65.04	69.19	- 2.07	0.22
Commodity	129.20	137.40	+ 1.30	
Emerging Mkts	38.55	41.01	+ 1.17	0.49
European Gwth	291.30	309.90†	+ 2.00	
Euro Smlr Cos	79.77	84.86	+ 0.90	
Extra Income #	65.54	67.82†	+ 0.15	5.16
Far Eastern	76.28	81.15	- 0.85	..
FE Sm Cos	37.45	39.84	+ 0.28	0.86
Financial Secs	402.20	427.90	+ 4.40	1.35
Gold & Exploration	49.40	52.55	+ 0.66	
Growth	529.10	531.80	+ 2.30	1.52
High Income	52.37	52.37†	- 0.04	6.97
Intl Bond	156.50	165.20	- 0.40	4.84
ITD	259.10	275.60†	+ 1.90	0.77
Japan Growth	124.70	132.70	- 0.30	
Japan Smaller	107.30	113.70	- 3.60	.
Korea	24.88	26.47†	+ 1.68	..
Latin America	48.00	51.06	+ 2.31	0.26
Mastertrust	71.99	72.35	+ 0.46	0.94
Premier Eq Gth	206.30	219.50	+ 0.70	1.17
Premier Eq Inc #	444.30	472.70	+ 1.30	3.81
SE Asia	33.81	35.97	- 0.47	0.22
Southern Africa	49.94	53.13	+ 0.73	1.07
UK & O'seas	225.20	239.60	+ 1.60	0.70
UK Eqty Gth	102.30	108.80	+ 0.30	1.16
UK Eqty Inc #	315.70	335.90	+ 1.50	3.87
UK Gth & Inc #	368.60	392.10	+ 1.70	2.73
UK Sm Cos	65.56	69.73	+ 0.18	0.90
US Growth	274.70	292.10	+ 4.80	.
New Europe ‡	47.39		.	.
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	412.84	436.19†	- 0.72	0.67
-do- Accum	459.47	485.46†	- 0.79	0.67
European Gwth	108.95	115.45	- 0.15	0.27
Euro Smlr Cos	171.33	178.90	+ 0.07	.
-do- Accum	123.08	130.76	+ 0.07	
Far Eastern Gth	87.15	92.95	- 0.97	
-do- Accum	88.83	94.74	- 0.98	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	55.81	58.79	+ 0.03	7.32
Global Bond #	45.70	47.22	- 0.20	6.56
-do- Accum #	57.22	59.11	- 0.26	6.56
Global Emer Mkts	50.04	53.37†	+ 1.11	
-do- Accum	50.09	53.42†	+ 1.11	
Income #	503.35	536.90	+ 0.50	4.39
-do- Accum #	1773.00	1891.19	+ 1.76	4.39
Japan Smlr Cos	246.01	262.41	- 9.87	
-do- Accum	246.51	262.93	- 9.90	
Japan Enterprise	52.74	56.25†	- 1.09	
Pacific Gwth	107.50	114.66	- 1.20	0.69
-do- Accum	111.75	119.20	- 1.24	0.69
Portfolio	104.39	111.02	- 0.37	1.80
-do- Accum	117.87	125.47	- 0.43	1.80
Seoul	21.29	22.70	+ 1.36	
-do- Accum	21.29	22.70	+ 1.36	
Smaller Cos	372.84	397.69	+ 1.88	0.99
-do- Accum	446.54	476.31	+ 2.25	0.99
Strategic Inc	110.78	117.96	- 0.01	2.44
Strategic Acc	113.60	120.96	- 0.01	2.44
Tokyo	107.15	114.29	- 1.68	
-do- Accum	108.23	115.45	- 1.69	
UK Enterprise	393.75	419.99	- 0.99	2.02
-do- Accum	498.55	531.78	- 1.26	2.02
UK Equity	359.01	382.94	- 1.13	2.20
-do- Accum	741.85	791.32	- 2.32	2.20
US Smlr Cos	323.93	345.52†	+ 1.16	
-do- Accum	323.93	345.52†	+ 1.16	
Institutional Funds				
European	353.92	366.64	+ 0.27	1.05
-do- Accum	403.33	417.63	+ 0.30	1.05
Euro Smlr Cos	39.08	40.68	+ 0.16	0.95
-do- Accum	42.41	44.16	+ 0.17	0.95
Global Equity Inc	99.91	103.92†	+ 0.43	0.84
Japan Smlr Cos	23.84	24.83	- 0.65	0.14
-do- Accum	24.11	25.12	- 0.65	0.14
Mngd Balanced	245.19	255.40	+ 0.16	3.39
-do- Accum	295.24	307.54	+ 0.20	3.39
Overseas Equity	218.62	227.64	- 0.02	0.97
-do- Accum	231.23	240.76	- 0.03	0.97
Oseas Smlr Cos	125.87	131.11	+ 0.30	0.94
-do- Accum	134.20	139.79	+ 0.32	0.94
Pacific	192.87	200.90†	- 2.72	2.26
-do- Accum	218.12	227.21†	- 3.07	2.26
Recovery	2733.50	2847.39	+ 4.33	2.86
-do- Accum	3088.50	3217.28	+ 4.89	2.86
UK Index	221.65	230.84	- 0.93	2.92
-do- Accum	293.91	306.09	- 1.25	2.92
UK Small Cos	157.62	164.18	+ 0.28	2.61
-do- Accum	178.59	186.03	+ 0.32	2.61
US Smlr Cos	83.24	86.68†	+ 0.14	0.67
-do- Accum	85.91	89.46†	+ 0.15	0.67
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	71.66	75.78	+ 1.15	2.25
Equity Trust	93.82	99.21	+ 1.23	2.55
Equity Strategy	99.72	105.45	+ 1.25	1.70
European Opps	125.30	132.51	+ 2.84	0.15
UK Smaller Cos	83.91	88.73	+ 0.16	1.47
Maximum Inc	99.43	102.06	+ 0.02	7.73
Japanese	52.36	56.37	- 0.72	
Asia Pacific	87.47	92.50	- 1.35	0.56
American	168.70	178.40	+ 3.16	0.88
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	35.00	35.00		6.71
UK Eq Gwth Inc	72.12	76.85	- 0.24	2.59
-do- Accum	100.28	106.86	- 0.24	2.59
Intl Income	325.54	346.47†	+ 2.27	1.34
-do- Accum	583.20	620.71†	+ 4.08	1.34
European	126.35	134.28	+ 0.85	1.04
Japan	50.92	53.93†	- 0.46	0.05
American	126.51	133.62	+ 2.56	1.00
Far East Tact	65.31	69.66	- 1.46	1.75
Ethical Inc	44.75	47.86	- 1.12	1.86
UK Blue Chip Inc	48.84	52.10	- 0.25	2.60
UK Equity Inc	50.49	53.86†	+ 0.05	3.79
UK Global Inc	55.81	59.42	+ 0.27	1.64
Wwide Tact	93.71	99.73	+ 0.79	1.03
Europe Tactical	91.87	98.02	+ 0.74	0.55
Technology	180.35	191.43	+ 3.19	0.45
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	599.60	638.80	- 1.50	2.47
American	419.30	443.90	+ 8.10	0.26
Pacific	317.50	339.60	- 3.70	0.29
European	760.80	813.70	+ 1.80	0.74
Worldwide	94.06	100.60	+ 0.30	0.37
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	394.80	419.90	- 1.20	2.07
-do- Accum	529.00	562.70	- 1.20	2.07
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	287.40	305.70	+ 0.60	1.68
-do- Accum	357.60	380.40	+ 0.60	1.68
Select Opprtny Inc	96.69	103.40	..	1.82
Income Plus Inc	101.80	108.20	.	2.99
European Inc	516.60	549.20	+ 2.70	0.63
-do- Accum	589.30	625.90	+ 3.10	0.63
Far Eastern Inc	132.50	141.00	- 1.90	1.31
-do- Accum	155.10	165.10	- 2.00	1.31
Japanese Inc	46.34	49.30	- 0.38	
Nth American Inc	431.00	457.80	+ 8.40	0.04
-do- Accum	477.50	507.10	+ 9.30	0.04
Intl Growth Inc	233.10	248.00	+ 0.70	0.32
Wwide Ventures Inc	103.50	110.10	+ 0.80	0.39
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 668 3724				
Equity Inc	523.40	553.00	+ 5.50	2.13
-do- Accum	819.60	865.90	+ 8.60	2.13
UK High Inc	251.10	265.20	+ 3.10	1.95
-do- Accum	401.30	424.00	+ 5.10	1.95
Europe Inc	577.50	610.20	+ 10.20	0.55
Nth Amer Inc	379.50	400.80	+ 6.50	0.12
Global Inc	276.40	292.00	+ 3.40	0.39
Global Acc	300.10	317.00	+ 3.70	0.39
UK Spec Sits Inc	148.50	156.90	+ 1.50	1.92
South East Asia	148.40	156.80	- 1.80	0.98
Cash Invst Inc	102.10	102.10		6.50
UK Smlr Cos Inc	132.50	140.00	+ 0.20	1.93
-do- Accum	141.80	149.30	+ 0.30	1.93
Intl Bond Inc	88.80	93.38	- 0.90	3.92
International Strat	87.07	92.20	+ 0.70	
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	191.40	201.50	+ 1.60	0.22
Nth American	166.00	174.70	+ 3.30	..
Intl Bond & Conv	131.60	138.50†	- 0.10	6.06
Pooled Pension	265.00	284.90	- 0.70	2.07
Smaller Cos	132.10	139.10†	+ 0.30	1.06
UK General #	195.20	205.50†	+ 0.10	2.07
Far Eastern	68.48	72.08†	- 0.61	0.21
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 5226				
Continental	108.90	115.00	- 0.30	0.74
Global Gwth	89.57	94.63	+ 0.58	0.86
Inv Tst Port	61.21	65.81	+ 0.56	2.17
Managed	1457.87	1524.50	- 0.04	1.46
Pref Inc #	109.60	116.50†	+ 0.10	6.12
Smaller Cos	287.20	305.50	+ 0.70	0.80
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	100.57	.	- 0.20	4.46
Sterling Reserve ‡	101.43		+ 0.01	5.33
Corporate Inc ‡	101.85		- 0.12	5.15
Tai Pan ‡	86.57	.	- 3.87	..
Aztec ‡	81.78		+ 3.64	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	166.17		- 2.02	
European ‡	191.17	..	+ 0.11	
Global Bond ‡	87.34		- 0.06	7.00
Samurai ‡	44.62		- 0.23	.
UK Growth ‡	123.11		- 0.16	2.64
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	98.45	.	+ 0.06	2.86

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Trust ‡	118.63	..	+ 0.91	1.71
The Football Fd ‡	85.89	.	+ 0.41	
Eastern Roll Up ‡	101.06	.	- 0.10	
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	532.20	563.00	+ 7.10	
Capital	160.40	169.70	+ 2.40	1.38
Cash	100.73	100.73	+ 0.05	6.59
European	187.50	198.40	+ 1.40	0.24
Far Eastern	141.30	149.40	+ 3.40	
Growth	193.70	204.90	+ 2.60	1.40
Income #	161.20	170.50	+ 1.40	4.70
[illegible]	168.88	178.60	+ 2.80	1.45
South Secs	635.90	672.90†	+ 3.90	0.12
Thoroughbred	197.60	209.10†	+ 3.30	1.46
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0800 73 11 093				
Cntrld Princpl	60.73	64.91	+ 0.28	7.00
Ethical	90.58	96.87	+ 0.24	0.90
European Growth	94.97	100.70		0.16
Income #	70.35	75.24†	+ 0.02	4.35
Intl Growth	119.30	126.40	+ 1.10	..
Managed	103.30	109.30	+ 0.30	0.82
UK Growth	86.97	93.01	- 0.19	1.41
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	50.93	51.19	+ 0.60	1.25
Global Advtg Acc	55.99	56.27	+ 0.70	1.25
Income Advtg Inc	42.59	42.81	+ 0.50	3.83
Income Advtg Acc	51.53	51.79	- 0.60	3.82
UK Equity Gth Acc	119.20	126.40	+ 1.30	1.41
Premier Inc Inc	53.01	54.08	- 0.10	6.66
Premier Inc Acc	60.12	61.33	- 0.10	6.66
Managed Acc	70.70	74.95	+ 0.80	1.71
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	49.51	52.49†	+ 0.50	3.71
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	68.41	72.52	+ 0.70	3.71
UK Smlr Cos Acc	52.50	56.88	+ 0.20	0.55
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	97.22	103.30	+ 1.20	1.60
UK Equity Gen Inc	68.39	72.67†	+ 0.90	1.60
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	33.63	35.57†	- 0.10	6.20
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	275.80	[illegible]	+ 5.80	2.00
Nth American Acc	72.47	77.00	+ 2.10	0.01
Pacific Basin	33.81	35.93	+ 2.20	1.33
European Acc	67.00	71.19	+ 0.80	0.35
Japan Acc	22.39	23.68		0.75
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (ECS)	5.130	5.458		1.60
US Eqts (ECS)	4.258	4.516†		0.62
Far East Eqts (yen)	248.30	253.70†		
FT Europe	186.00	197.50†		0.99
FT N Amer (US$)	3.514	3.732†		
FT Japan (yen)	148.80	157.10†		
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.272	2.413†		0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	621.10	656.10	+ 11.30	
British #	1495.20	1581.90	+ 2.50	2.28
Emrging Mkts	171.70	182.52	+ 2.90	0.49
Euro Gwth Inc	111.80	118.50	+ 1.00	
Euro Small Co	63.03	67.13	+ 0.20	0.18
Japan	96.10	101.90	- 1.20	
Asia Pacific	366.10	389.90	+ 0.60	1.31
-do- Accum	398.30	424.20	+ 0.60	1.31
Inv Trust Acc	322.60	341.90	+ 2.40	1.03
Mngd Equity	227.30	240.50	+ 0.50	2.40
Mngd Cash	95.83	95.83	+ 0.01	6.56
For Sun Alliance UT see Royal & Sun Alliance				
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Asia Pacific	16.82	17.90	- 0.25	2.16
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	103.38	109.88	- 0.14	6.56
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	114.44	121.75	- 0.15	6.56
European	63.15	67.19	+ 0.72	0.42
Japan	28.82	30.66	- 0.04	0.01
Managed Assets	163.44	174.81	+ 0.22	2.03
North American	58.70	62.45	+ 1.30	0.07
Smlr Cos Inc	39.73	42.27†	+ 0.31	1.78
Smlr Cos Acc	44.45	47.29	+ 0.35	1.78
UK Growth Inc	78.42	83.43	- 0.13	1.55
UK Growth Acc	90.65	96.44	- 0.14	1.55
Extra Income #	56.12	58.96	- 0.42	4.25
Worldwide Gth	46.90	50.17†	+ 0.24	0.30
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	60.73	64.61†	+ 0.49	
UK Income Inc	74.02	78.74	- 0.37	2.51
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	38.44	40.64†	- 0.07	6.28
Mngd High Yld Inc	109.32	114.77†	- 0.91	3.63
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	101.34	107.89†	- 0.38	2.58
UK Smaller Cos	44.56	47.39†	+ 0.04	1.94
Pacific Gth Port	37.63	40.03	- 0.72	0.71
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 794				
American	375.11	396.94	+ 7.88	
-do- Accum	413.16	437.21	+ 8.68	..
Brit Growth	146.53	155.06†	- 0.37	1.21
-do- Accum	185.64	196.45†	- 0.46	1.21
European	150.74	159.52	+ 0.22	
-do- Accum	161.01	170.38	+ 0.23	
Extra Income #	255.92	270.81	+ 0.20	4.03
-do- Accum #	489.68	518.19	+ 0.38	4.03
Smaller Cos	97.91	103.61	+ 0.15	0.99
-do- Accum	113.12	119.71	+ 0.18	0.99
General	425.46	450.23	- 0.95	1.48
-do- Accum	925.28	979.13	- 2.08	1.48
Premier Income	54.44	56.71†	- 0.10	5.84
-do- Accum	145.06	151.10†	- 0.38	5.84
Income #	464.51	491.54	- 0.79	3.11
-do- Accum #	1109.97	1174.57	- 0.68	3.11
Pacific	296.18	313.42	- 3.43	0.08
-do- Accum	311.21	329.32	- 3.61	0.08
International	692.43	732.73†	+ 2.50	0.09
-do- Accum	915.00	968.25†	+ 3.31	0.09
Nat Resources	134.44	142.27†	- 0.58	0.05
Select Opps	151.46	160.27†	- 0.33	0.85
-do- Accum	201.80	213.54†	- 0.44	0.85
Environmental Inv	98.60	104.34	- 0.03	0.54
Selector	86.11	91.12†	- 0.08	1.72
-do- Accum	101.88	107.91†	- 0.09	1.72
High Income #	84.21	89.11	+ 0.06	3.85
-do- Accum #	119.28	126.23	+ 0.07	3.85
Intl Income	63.14	66.81†	- 0.12	4.34
-do- Accum	87.53	92.63†	- 0.17	4.34
Selector Income	76.18	80.61†	- 0.05	3.80
-do- Accum	100.39	106.23†	- 0.07	3.80
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0181 667 1018				
British	489.78	515.56	- 0.68	2.17
European	95.26	99.77†	+ 0.30	1.15
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	267.72	283.30	+ 1.91	2.75
Glob Growth Acc	313.39	331.63	+ 2.23	2.76
Glob Balncd Inc	212.32	224.67†	+ 1.31	3.60
Glob Balncd Acc	266.42	281.92†	+ 1.65	3.60
Value Tst Inc	166.06	175.73	+ 1.18	2.48
Value Tst Acc	187.82	198.75	+ 1.34	2.48
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	107.10	113.90	- 1.60	0.46
International	78.21	83.20		
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dorados Ext Bd	38.06	40.61	+ 0.15	6.50
European Growth	398.31	417.07	+ 1.88	0.90
Exempt	792.99	827.74†	- 0.90	2.80
Global Em Mkts	81.32	86.15	+ 1.43	0.50
Japan Tst	66.85	70.00	- 0.25	
Little Dragons	82.21	86.08	- 0.05	
Nth Amer Gwth	380.86	398.80	+ 5.95	0.40
Oriental Income #	42.12	44.10†	- 0.20	4.20
Preference	144.42	151.22†	- 0.12	7.90
Tiger	213.26	223.30	- 4.39	
UK Blue Chip	98.54	103.18	- 0.14	1.50
UK Growth	782.16	819.01†	+ 0.89	0.80
UK High Yield #	137.11	143.57†	+ 0.14	4.80
UK Mid-Cap	374.51	392.15	+ 2.62	1.50
UK Smlr Cos	140.75	147.38	+ 0.11	0.70
UK Smlr Cos Div #	90.55	94.81		5.80
THREADNEEDLE INVESTMENTS				
Client Serv: 0800 0683000 Inter Serv: 0800 0684000				
Conversion Helpline: 0500 386227 (Until end Dec)				
Threadneedle Investment Services				
Managed Income	48.69	50.980	- 0.07	3.66
Caut Mgd Gth Acc	48.77	51.060	- 0.11	4.14
Bal Mgd Gth Acc	47.63	49.870	- 0.13	2.63
Adv Mgd Gth Acc	46.74	48.940	- 0.06	0.89
Threadneedle Investment Funds (OEIC)				
Retail Shares (Class 1)				
UK				
UK Corporate Bd ‡	51.96		- 0.09	6.94
UK Equity Inc #	51.31		- 0.12	3.56
UK Growth ‡	50.26	..	- 0.15	1.34
UK Gwth & Inc ‡	46.82		- 0.25	2.40
UK Monthly Inc #	47.56		- 0.09	3.65
UK Select Gwth ‡	50.68		- 0.09	1.51
UK Sm Cos Gwth ‡	52.79		+ 0.18	0.91
International				
Amer Gwth Acc ‡	46.79		+ 0.19	0.10
Euro Gwth Acc ‡	49.02		+ 0.01	0.06
FE&Jap Gwth Acc ‡	35.57		- 0.59	.
Japan Gwth Acc ‡	39.38		- 0.58	
Specialist				
Amer Sel Gwth ‡	48.27		+ 0.29	0.04
Asia Growth Acc ‡	36.30		- 0.52	0.19
Euro Sel Gwth ‡	46.98		+ 0.03	0.06
Gib Sel Gth Acc ‡	45.96		- 0.24	0.11
Institutional Shares (Class 2) (£500,000 min)				
UK				
UK Equity Inc #	51.38		- 0.12	4.20
UK Growth ‡	50.32		- 0.14	1.89
UK Gwth & Inc ‡	46.84		- 0.25	2.99
UK Inst Gwth ‡	50.18	..	- 0.23	1.70
UK Oseas Eqts ‡	49.58	...	- 0.25	1.00
UK Select Gwth ‡	50.70		- 0.07	2.07
UK Sm Cos Gwth ‡	52.81	.	+ 0.18	1.44
International				
Amer Gwth Acc ‡	46.84		+ 0.19	0.65
Euro Gwth Acc ‡	49.08		+ 0.02	0.56
FE & Jap Gth Acc ‡	35.61	.	- 0.58	.
Japan Growth Acc ‡	39.43		- 0.57	
Specialist				
Amer Sel Gwth ‡	48.33	..	+ 0.30	0.54
Asia Growth Acc ‡	36.37	.	- 0.52	0.69
Euro Sel Gth Acc ‡	47.03	.	+ 0.03	0.56
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 336				
UK Eq Inc Acc #	401.70	426.92	- 0.73	3.98
UK Equity Gwth	435.54	463.34	- 0.43	1.72
European	216.30	230.11†	+ 1.03	0.49
Nth American	107.03	113.86†	+ 1.76	.
Far Eastern	62.90	66.92	- 0.40	0.34
Money	75.07	75.07	+ 0.01	6.15
Fixed Interest #	88.46	91.88	- 0.06	6.89
Index Linked Gilt	81.36	86.29	- 0.06	1.47
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 959595				
Income Trust	109.42	109.42†	.	6.30
Pens Growth	121.41	121.41	.	
Pens Inc Protd	111.10	111.10		
UK Index Tracking @	155.35	155.35†		2.40
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0161 631 7455				
Australasian Gold	15.24	16.04	+ 0.05	
Pacific Basin	24.96	26.27	- 0.18	
Global Fund (US$)	0.9548	1.0050†	+ 0.0030	.
Penny Share	49.18	51.77	- 0.18	..
Japan Smlr Cos	28.32	29.81†	- 0.63	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Short Dtd Gilt	130.20	131.70	+ 0.10	
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.8119	0.8303	- 0.0001	..
Gilt Income	52.37	53.19	+ 0.04	6.30
Gilt Growth	86.07	87.43	+ 0.05	..
Sterling Bond	51.38	52.21	+ 0.05	6.20
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0161 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	63.47	67.43	- 0.11	1.76
UK Stockmarket	122.20	129.90	- 0.40	2.16
Corporate Bd Inc	50.34	50.45	- 0.01	5.87
Do Accum	54.67	54.79		5.87

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge

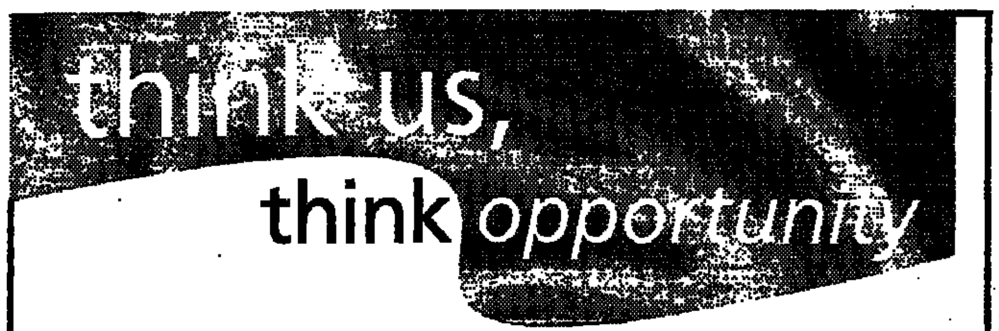
جدد من الاصل

هكذا من الاهل

Telephone:
0171 680 6806

Crème de la Crème

Fax:
0171 782 7586



Unique positions in training administration

Watford

KPMG is one of the world's leading international business advisory organisations. Our Central Training Unit in Watford is a centre of excellence for professional development and we have opportunities for experienced administrators in three key temporary positions.

Training Course Administrator *6 months fixed term contract c.£16,000 pro rata*

Available from early December, this is a pivotal role in which you will ensure the smooth running of courses and conferences held both at Watford and other UK locations.

Dealing with the preparation and distributing of course materials, you will also be responsible for liaising with venue co-ordinators and the booking of accommodation. Processing invoices and monitoring expenditure will also be important aspects of the role.

A highly numerate and computer literate individual, you will be educated to 'A' level or equivalent and have experience of Word, Excel and other PC packages. Your outstanding organisational ability and communication skills should be matched by the ability to work on your own initiative and cope with pressure. As regular travel and overnight stays will be necessary, a flexible approach to working hours will be essential.

Department Administrator *6 months fixed term contract c.£14,500 pro rata*

Required from early 1998, this varied role involves a broad spectrum of tasks - from co-ordinating the booking of training rooms to liaising with training providers. Updating the training database and preparing reports will also be part of this role.

You will be educated to at least 'O' level/GCSE standard with good secretarial, computer and administration experience and an outgoing personality.

Health & Safety Course Administrator *1 year fixed term contract c.£15,500 pro rata*

Required to start January 1998, you will be involved in administering a Health & Safety course programme as well as helping plan and co-ordinate other courses, confirming bookings, amending schedules and the maintenance of the training database. The role will also involve constant liaison throughout the firm.

A teamworker with a keen eye for detail, you will be educated to 'O' Level or GCSE standard. A high level of computer literacy and a professional telephone manner will be essential, and the ability to remain calm under pressure.

KPMG
means business

To apply, please write with your CV, to: Susan Morrin, Human Resources, KPMG, 58 Clarendon Road, Watford, WD1 1DA.

PA/OFFICE MANAGER

Salary c. £22,000, plus benefits
Knightsbridge office

SPP is one of the largest pension and life insurance companies in the Nordic region. Its assets are managed by SPP Investment Management, principally from Stockholm, as well as from offices in London and New York.

The London office is now looking for an experienced PA/Office Manager to join a new portfolio management team which is being assembled in London. This will focus on international real estate investment throughout Europe and Asia.

This is an ideal position for a highly organised individual with first class skills in Microsoft (or similar) packages. Both flexible and capable of working on your own initiative, you will be responsible for ensuring that the office runs smoothly on a day-to-day basis. Your principal duties will include secretarial, personnel and administration support for a 6 strong team, who frequently travel abroad.

If you wish to apply for this position, please send a copy of your CV to:

Christine Coleman
Personnel Officer
SPP Investment Management
243 Knightsbridge, London, SW7 1DN.

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james martin+co

PA required

£20 - £25K + benefits
Age 25+

Are you looking for a challenge ?

PA required to work for an International Consultancy Company based in Chertsey. Ideally candidates should have excellent communication skills to enable them to organise events, co-ordinate travel, diaries and provide secretarial support to three Directors.

The role requires a minimum of two years experience working at senior level. Expertise in Word, Excel and PowerPoint is required and a sense of humour is vital !

If you feel you fulfil the above criteria, Please send your CV and a covering letter to Alison Whittenbury (Private & Confidential) at :

James martin+co
11 Windsor Street
Chertsey
Surrey
KT16 8AY

Imperial Cancer Research Fund is one of Britain's largest charities. Our aim is to prevent, treat or cure all forms of cancer.

SCIENTIFIC LIAISON ADMINISTRATOR

£15,000 - £18,000 + pension

BASED IN LONDON, WC2

We seek a mature and analytical individual to provide general administrative and office support within the Scientific Liaison area, which handles *communication* between the Fundraising and Scientific branches of our organisation. You will act as a key point of contact, assisting in updating and monitoring project data, and maintaining a spreadsheet of scientific equipment. We want our donors to have a better understanding of the scientific work we do. Therefore, as part of our project to improve contact between the people who donate and the scientists who work to eradicate cancer, you will assist in arranging lab visits and other initiatives. With an interest in science (preferably backed up by A-levels) and at least three years' secretarial experience, you should be numerate with excellent interpersonal skills.

To apply, please send a covering letter and two copies of your CV with the names and addresses of 2 referees to the Personnel Department, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX. Please quote reference: 1698/T.
Closing date for applications: 19 November 1997.

WE HAVE A NO SMOKING POLICY

Imperial Cancer
Research Fund

We are an equal opportunities employer

EXECUTIVE SEARCH

As a newly formed Executive Search consultancy, *based in beautifully* refurbished offices in Mayfair, we are looking for flexible, enthusiastic people with a professional approach who genuinely want to contribute towards and share in the success of a new company.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

A varied and challenging role working with two Directors, you must be educated to a minimum of A' Level, have proven secretarial and computer skills at director level and be a good communicator as there is a significant amount of client/candidate liaison at the highest level. Versatility, a hands-on approach with a strong sense of humour are essential.
Salary: £20,000 + bonus.

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

As the front person of the company it is vital that this important position is held by a well presented, cheerful, energetic experienced receptionist who is organised and has an excellent telephone manner. Coupled with your reception duties you will be assisting with typing and office management duties and will need to be able to prioritise your work.
Salary: £18,000 + bonus

Please fax your CV to Lulu Swainston
0171 628 8833 or e-mail Garner.Int@btinternet.com
No Agencies

MCM Europe Limited - a division of MCM Inc

MCM supplies screen-based financial analysis to virtually all major Foreign Exchange and Fixed Income dealing operations worldwide. In many segments MCM services are acknowledged as being market leaders. As part of a major expansion programme we are seeking two client liaison staff to work with our senior management and marketing team. Duties will include visiting clients, demonstrating services, taking part in promotional campaigns and dealing with various functional levels in major banks. The two positions are:

ACCOUNT DEVELOPMENT

This role wil principally involve working with the major international banks who constitute our client base in London. The principal qualities required include a high degree of team spirit, good communication skills and the confidence required to deal with senior financial markets participants. Salary is negotiable based on experience, but is expected to be in the £20-25,000 per annum range with a bonus potential of circa £6-10,000 per annum.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

This role is similar to that of account development, the main difference being that the bulk of the client base will be in Continental Europe. Additional skills will include languages, mainly German, with a high degree of fluency. Foreign travel will clearly be required, on some occassions for extended periods. Salary is negotiable based on experience, but is expected to be in the £22-27,000 per annum range with a bonus potential of circa £8-12,000 per annum.

Candidates should be educated to degree level or should be able to demonstrate relevant experience.

After successful completion of a probationary period all employees enjoy a range of benefits, including pension funding and health care.

Candidates should forward their CV, stating which position is of interest, to:
The Recruitment Officer, MCM (Europe) Ltd
The Mill House, 8 Mill Street
London, SE1 2BA
TEL: 0171 378 7273 FAX: 0171 357 7959.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Engineering Council requires an Assistant Secretary for our busy Director General's office, to work with the Director General's Personal Secretary.
The applicant will need fast accurate word processing skills, preferably Word for Windows including Powerpoint and Excel, and good administrative skills. Shorthand would be an advantage.

Salary is c. £16,000 p a + generous benefits.

Please send your curriculum vitae and covering letter to:
Joanne Perkins, Personnel Administrator
Engineering Council, 10 Maltravers Street,
London, WC2R 3ER. Closing Date:
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The Engineering Council sets the standards for the education and training of Engineers.
Charity No. 286142

HOUSE OF COMMONS

up to £16K + 27 days holidays + Pension and other benefits

An opportunity to work in one of the most exciting and diverse catering organisations in the country. Applications are invited from confident, self-motivated people with good communication skills to join a team of highly qualified chefs. The key role for the person appointed will help co-ordinate the admin. as well as day to day office activity associated with the operation of eight kitchens. It will require hard work but will be rewarding and interesting too!

To apply, send your CV to the Personnel Office, Refreshment Department, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA no later than Monday 17 November 1997.

Applications from disabled people are welcomed.

The House of Commons is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

BEDGEBURY SCHOOL

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Goudhurst, Kent TN17 2SH

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Bursar

Bedgebury School is housed in a magnificent mansion set in 250 acres of parkland and also in two other major properties. The School is awaiting planning permission for an exciting building programme to allow it to operate from one site.

The person appointed will be responsible to the Headmistress for the provision of central support services and should have experience in two or more of the following fields of management:

Finance, Estates/Premises, Human Resources, Education Catering/Hospitality, Legal Services, Information Technology

A competitive salary will be negotiated

The closing date for applications is 5 December 1997.
Forms and an information pack may be obtained from:
The Headmistress
Telephone 01580 211630

OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY 6th Nov - 8.30am to 7.00pm

- **Career Choice:** Great for juniors (£10/15K), exciting breaks for team secretaries (£16/£18K) & perfect challenges for PAs (£20K+).
- **Colourful Companies:** Interesting, challenging and fun. Finance, management consultancy, media, PR & publishing. City & West End.
- **Brilliant Benefits:** Plus bonuses & PRP, paid overtime, STL, lunches, gyms, pools, medical, pensions, extra hols, training & great prospects.
- **Clued-up Consultants:** to look after YOU ALL DAY. Bring your CV and enjoy a career chat, positive advise and refreshments. Drop by or call Donna for an alternative appt time.

Phone: 0171 256 6668
Fax: 0171 256 7273
Bank/Liv St/Moorgate

LOVE & TATE plc

Warnford Court, 29 Throgmorton Street, London EC2

EXPERIENCED AUDIO SECRETARY/PA

Exciting opportunity to join young, fast growing, successful *West End Commercial Estate Agents.* Specialising in Retail & Restaurant Properties.
Applicant must have computer skills including network and Email experience.
Salary commensurate with experience.
Apply to Philip Sandzer
Shelly Sandzer & Company
Tel: 0171 580 3366 Fax: 0171 580 3399

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

To support busy party organising team in Fulham. We have been established for 18 years and are considered leaders in the field. You must be well-educated, able to work under pressure, know your way round Windows 95 and be able to type like a demon! Good salary for right person. Please telephone Grania Wills on 0171 386 0088 or fax CV to 0171 386 1929.

P.A. TO DIRECTOR

London/Reading **Competitive Salary**

We are the UK arm of one of the largest American computer companies. We are now looking for a highly professional P.A. to work solely with one of our directors responsible for a rapidly expanding Telecommunications group of over 100 people.

This is no small task and you will need to be able to deal sensitively and effectively with senior level managers working across a number of departments. Self motivated, you must also be able to use your own initiative, drawing upon your excellent communication and organisational skills to support your director to greatest effect.

Along with at least 10 years' experience in a similar role, you must possess a thorough knowledge of Microsoft Office, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and e-mail. A willingness to travel to Reading approximately twice a week is also vital. In return for your commitment you will receive a highly competitive salary and benefits package, including London weighting.

If you're interested in hearing more, write enclosing CV to Maggie Mills, Digital Equipment Company Limited, Worton Grange, Imperial Way, Reading, Berks RG2 0TE.

PA/Secretary North London

The Managing Director of an International Service Marketing Practice requires a mature, experienced PA.

You must be proficient in MSOffice applications and have an excellent telephone *manner*. An ability to keep a busy diary and manage travel arrangements reliably is essential.

Salary £16,500 + Bens (neg aae).

CVs to
J Young,
Blakes Marketing Practice,
Turnberry House,
London N20 9BH.

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

circa £17,500 pa

This busy City yacht club requires a mature secretary/administrator experienced in MS Office to join a small committed team administering the varied activities of a thriving membership club. Travel loan and private health care after qualifying service.

Written applications only with CV to:
Chief Executive
Little Ship Club
Bell Wharf Lane
Upper Thames Street
LONDON EC4R 3TB

PA/ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Required immediately assisting Managing Director. Ability to work on own initiative and assist in other administrative duties. Computer literate and at least 1 year accounting experience.

Hours 8.30-5p.m.

Please send CV and existing salary to:
Mark Brown, Managing Director,
Phoenix Fabrics Ltd, 3rd Floor,
Buckingham House, 62-63 Queen Street,London EC4R 1AD.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

c16,000

Enthusiastic Secretary required for a team of four chartered surveyors. The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal skills and be proficient in the use of Wordperfect 6.1 and Audio typing. Fast speeds are essential. An ability to work on your own initiative is an additional requirement. Previous property experience would be advantageous.
Please apply in writing enclosing a CV to:-
Moffatt & Partners, 1 Angel Court, St James's, SW1Y 6QF.

RECEPTIONIST/ADMIN SEC

Expanding intl service co. require well presented receptionist who can combine this role with admin/sec support to two General Managers. A flexible, adaptable, team player with a knowledge of Word for Windows, Excel, PowerPoint.
Sal c£18,000 + bens pkg.

Post CV to: Office Manager, CPS, 81 Piccadilly
London W1V 9HF.

Directors' P.A. Hackney E8

MOMART

MOMART, the UK's premier Fine Art handlers, are looking for an experienced PA to support the Board of Directors working predominantly for the Managing Director.

The role requires excellent organisational skills, computer literacy, good typing speeds and the ability to work under pressure.

Please send your C.V. to Carole Hastings, MOMART, 199-205 Richmond Road E8 3NJ.

PERSONAL SECRETARY

To Director and General Manager

Where the buck stops.

UP TO £21,000 • LONDON EC1

Royal Mail is one of the UK's most consistently successful businesses. As a forward thinking organisation we have an on-going and obvious commitment to quality and service. We maintain these standards by ensuring that we're represented at every level within the organisation by individuals who are the very best in their field.

At Personal Secretary level already, you'll realise that you'll be working for an extremely busy individual who needs to rely on you to manage a pressurised workload; yours will frequently be the desk where the buck stops. We'll expect you to bring the very best office management and secretarial skills, both audio and copy, including Lotus Notes, Organiser and Microsoft. This is a highly responsible role, suited to a highly organised person with excellent communication skills. You'll need to be comfortable as both team player and team leader, discreet when dealing with confidential information and confident when managing budgets.

In return for your professionalism, we offer a competitive salary and a challenging and supported career within Royal Mail or the wider Post Office group. To apply, please forward your CV, quoting Ref: 05/CC to our advising consultant, Alex Wilson at Wilson Associates, 45 Frederick Street, EDINBURGH EH2 1EP. Closing date: 19th November 1997.

Royal Mail is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. Suitably qualified applicants with a disability will be shortlisted for interview.

EVERYONE RESPONDS TO A LETTER

Royal Mail

Telephone:
0171 680 6806

Crème de la Crème

Fax:
0171 782 7586

ROOM AT THE TOP

International Gourmet £25,000

This prestigious, high profile restaurant group is looking for a senior PA to work with the *newly appointed Managing Director*. Based in their Head Office you will be at the forefront of this fast paced, dynamic business. Your role will incorporate direct involvement in a variety of projects, management of a hectic diary, producing PowerPoint presentations as well as full PA support. You will be liaising at all levels *within the group* so excellent interpersonal skills are a must. The successful applicant will be confident and have a proactive attitude. Shorthand and MSOffice essential.

Committed to equal opportunities.

0171 287 7788

Angela Mortimer

PA to MD in PR
£20,000 +2 bonuses

Established PR Co with clients in fashion and interiors need a PA to oversee the MD's work life/homes/office parties as well as take responsibility for the smooth running of the day-to-day operation. Confident skills, sh useful, 60wpm on W4W and min 5 years experience in a demanding job.

Call 0171 287 2044/fax 287 3717.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

PA TO POWERHOUSE
£24,000 +++

High-powered Chief Executive, Head of Nursing Home Group will appreciate your 90sh/60wp - MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint skills but more importantly your organisational ability, your command of English and your ability to charm the birds out of the trees! With all of these *qualities* you will be well able to keep up with this female dynamo of a boss.

Call 0171 287 2044/Fax 287 3717.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

PA IN CHELSEA
£20,000

Walk to work at *Estate* Agents close to Sloane Sq! Well if its too far, you can still be the boss's PA and run the office and him, and help ensure that your team is motivated and happy! 70% admin/other tasks and 30% Audio, there, thats not so bad is it?

Call 0171-287 2044/fax 287 3717.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

PA to CEO
to £26,000 + benefits W1

PA with min 90/60 who lives Centrally will be appreciated by Chief Exec of global group 1 min from Oxford Circus. Suit mid 30s Secretary who is ready to move into that bigger role. You will be offered responsibility and stimulation to grow and yet still be appreciated for your terrific sense of humour and professional approach.

Call 0171 228 3044/fax 287 3717.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

PA trading floor.

to £24,000 + Benefits **Canary Wharf**

The pace is fast and furious in this varied role supporting two executives. You must be proactive and well organised to manage the diaries, co-ordinate meetings and client functions plus hold the fort while your bosses travel. Experience in investment banking and knowledge of Word for Windows is essential. Location: Canary Wharf. Hours: 8am-6pm. Age 24-35. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on ***0171 390 7000.***

Mini office manager.

c.£25,000 **City**

Young, dynamic financial PR company based in the City require an organised self-starter as their office manager. You will be involved in all aspects of accounts including client billing and payroll, as well as travel arrangements and managing facilities. Skills required: 40wpm and excellent IT literacy. Hours/Days: flexible. Please call Tracey Wakerly on **0171 390 7000.**

Superior support.

Up to £30,000 **City**

This historic and prolific financial institution requires a first class PA to assist their Chief Executive. A combination of superb secretarial, interpersonal and social skills will ensure your success. Senior director level experience at a 'blue chip' company is essential. Skills: 100 wpm shorthand, 50 wpm typing and W4W. Education: A Levels. Age: up to 40. Please call Sarah Burt on ***0171 390 7000.***

www.cronecorkill.co.uk

Crone Corkill
Pure Recruitment Skill

THE HATTON GARDEN AGENCY

TRUST PARTNER'S P.A.
£22-24,000

A professional PA/Secretary is sought to support this Partner in a 1 to 1 role. Experience of liaison with high profile clients. Ability to develop relationships with long standing clients. Many charities and families have been associated with the firm for several generations. Secretarial *work via Word/ Powerpoint/ Excel etc. Ideally would suit a* mature Secretary/PA with proven current experience at senior level.

0171 242 2344
Est. 11 years

PA/Secretary

We are a West End toiletry company looking for a PA/Secretary with a dynamic personality to work at Director level. Shorthand/Typing skills of *100/70wpm, knowledge of Word* for Windows and previous experience at director level is paramount. Experience in sales/marketing would be an advantage.

We offer a salary in the range of £18,00 - £20,000 pa, annual bonus and group permanent health insurance. If you are the ideal candidate and looking for a interesting and varied role, then please send your CV to:

Vicky Hendrick,
Grosvenor of London Plc,
49 Marylebone High St,
London W1M 4ED

The company: A fantastic French investment bank with in house gym/restaurant based in central London. A real international company with a young and fun fast moving environment.

The role: An exciting opportunity to use your languages working as a Sales Assistant in Global Bonds providing trade, administrative and secretarial support on the Fixed Income trading floor – 2 positions available.

The essentials: Educated to A level standard or equivalent; Trading floor/good secretarial experience and knowledge of Bloomberg preferred; intermediate/advanced knowledge of Word and Excel. One of the positions requires French and German, the other Italian.

use YOUR *languages!*

£25,000 + Benefits

GORDON·YATES

a passion for recruitment

WEST END OFFICE 0171 494 4466 0171 494 4499
CITY OFFICE 0171 283 4664 0171 283 4994

The company: A worldwide high profile market leader within the entertainment arena. Their dynamic European HQ is based in spacious W1 offices and has the rare combination of both a media and corporate style.

The role: Working for two financial key players (Director and Vice President) the duties will include organising their busy travel itineraries and being the main focal point during their frequent European trips. A born organiser required!

The essentials: You must be an experienced PA with MS Office knowledge including Powerpoint. You must also be confident with numbers and statistics with an eye for detail. The environment is sociable and outgoing, therefore a good sense of humour and a team playing attitude is required.

PA TO Director AND *Vice President*

£21,000

GORDON·YATES

a passion for recruitment

WEST END 0171 494 4466 0171 494 4499 CITY 0171 283 4664 0171 283 4994

EXECUTIVE PA

£22-24,000

A leading city Search and Selection firm with an international network is seeking an efficient, *professional yet approachable* PA to work for their high flying founder MD. Duties include extensive travel and diary arrangements, setting up meetings and agendas as well as administering the personnel function. You will need excellent secretarial and organisational skills, a meticulous eye for detail and the ability to liaise at high levels as well as extensive experience of working in a highly *pressurised and professional* environment. Background knowledge of the financial sector would be an advantage. Please call Angela Mortimer plc.

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

SUMMERS By Two

SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CITY PA
£28,000 + EXCELLENT BENEFITS

Managing Director of international commodity brokers seeks proactive PA. You will need to be a brilliant organiser. Lots of personal work. Never a dull moment! Tough yet charming, you will have a mature attitude and a lively personality. 70wpm typing, shorthand/longhand essential. W4W6. Basic Excel.

Please call 0171 637 3212

SHORTHAND = £££££!!
Up to £25K + Unbeatable Bens

How would you like to work for one of the City's leading Banks? Disheartened because everyone wants previous experience? Well look no further! If you have good secretarial skills (80wpm shorthand, 50wpm typing and Word for Windows) and a professional, outgoing manner, we want to talk to you about two secretarial vacancies supporting small executive teams. Call now for an immediate interview if you are aged 25/30, have a flexible attitude towards overtime and still enjoy a busy social life.

BIG FISH IN A SMALL POND
To £20,000

Tiny, prestigious company based at Hyde Park Corner seeks a PA to work for one of their MD's. He's demanding and travels extensively so you'll need resilience and lots of personality. Ideally you'll be aged mid 20's with a *steady background. Windows and Excel are essential and Shorthand an* advantage. Call today for an immediate interview! .

TROT INTO TOURISM!
£15K + Bens + GYM!

Fed up with City vacancies? Well this company based in Hammersmith wants to hear from you! The role involves supporting a small team *providing secretarial and administrative support with 50wpm and good* MS Office skills. In return they offer great benefits including an in-house gym and swimming pool! DON'T DELAY, CALL TODAY!

WE KNOW HOW TO LOOK AFTER YOU!

Forget all those extravagant promises you read in the papers. What you are really interested in is constant work, good temp rates, prestigious companies, interesting assignments and Temp Controllers who are straight with you. We don't have gimmicks, we offer real benefits which turn into a healthy pay packet every week.

THIS IS WHAT WE OFFER YOU:

- *A hassle free service*
- Work 52 weeks per year
- Good rates of pay
- Holiday bonus
- A friendly, helpful accounts department

If you are aged 18-40, have good MS Office (or advanced WordPerfect 5.1) excellent audio and if possible, shorthand skills – do yourself a favour, **CALL THE BEST IN TOWN!**

PAN EUROPEAN
RECRUITMENT

TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501

'AIMING TO EMPLOY THE BEST'

We are a highly successful, long established, family owned National Building Contractor who are looking to recruit a high performer for the following vacancy at our St Albans office:

PA to Managing Director/ Office Manager.

If you possess a minimum of 3 years experience at a senior PA level/Office Management, you are a good team player, energetic, professional, self motivated, flexible with a good sense of humour

In return, we will offer you an attractive salary/benefits, and a rare opportunity you would not want to miss.

To apply, please send your CV, stating your current or last salary to:

Peter Norman,
John Sisk & Son Ltd
Park House
Frogmore
ST ALBANS
Herts AL2 2NH

Ref: ma11

Hays Banking Personnel

SECRETARIAL DIVISION

CHRISTMAS BONUS!

Christmas is coming and your wallet's getting fat... No? Then it's time to make the change and get into Banking! We are currently recruiting for challenging & exciting Secretarial Temporary and Permanent opportunities in the World's most prestigious financial institutions.

To see how you could improve your prospects
(and bank balance) come and
see us at our

SECRETARIAL OPEN DAY
Real jobs for real people!

Thursday 6 November 1997
Consultants available from *8:00 am until 7:00 pm*

You must have: Word, Excel & Powerpoint Minimum 50 wpm audio/copy typing, at least 5 GCSE passes grade C and above and/or A'Level standard education, proven Secretarial skills and experience, flexibility and bags of enthusiasm!

Phone for an appointment if you are unable to make it on the day.

41/42 London Wall, London EC2M 5TB.
Tel: 0171 638 7003. Fax: 0171 628 5057

Work within
Chartered Surveyors,
Chartered Quantity
Surveyors, Architects,
Construction and
Estate Agents

Eclipse

COUNTRY ESTATES

Secretary is required for this "Blue Chip" company that specialises in the countryside dealing with land and country estates. You will be required to provide full secretarial and administrative support to the Equity Partner. Ideal candidate will have an interest in the countryside. Starting salary £18,000 +PRP + two bonus' + IFSTL + discount BUPA + Pension +21½ days hols etc.

RECRUITMENT PA

A unique opportunity to join one of the most prestigious companies in the property industry for a bright, intelligent, ambitious PA to assist the Personnel Manager. The emphasis of this position is on recruitment, therefore, previous experience within this industry would be advantageous. Excellent prospects for the right candidate. *Salary c £20,000.*

The Eclipse Organisation Ltd,
13 Maddox Street, London W1R 9LE.
Tel: 0171 629 4060 Fax 0171 629 5493 (Rec Cons)

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY IN P.R
PA in Knightsbridge c. £20,000

We are a small, specialist press and public relations firm, currently the *leading* agency in its field. The two partners need a dynamic, self-motivated and highly efficient P.A., who wants to get really involved and can use their initiative. In addition to providing secretarial back-up, you will be dealing directly with the press and our clients, helping to create news stories, organising parties and events and running the office in our absence.

You must be smart, well educated, out-going and a natural 'peoples' person with a sense of humour and excellent writing skills. Minimum age 23.

Write immediately with CV to:
Briony Elston, Jago D'Arcy Hale PR Ltd, 22 Hans Place,
London SW1X 0EP Tel: 0171 225 3033.

SECRETARY
£14,000

Prestigious Mayfair wine merchant seeks calm, efficient secretary to support a friendly, busy office. Computer literacy (Windows 95, Excel) and the ability to speak confidently to customers are essential. Basic understanding of French and an interest in wine would be useful.

Apply with CV to:
Miss Sasha McLusky
Louis Latour Ltd
7a Grafton Street, London W1X 3LA

(STRICTLY NO AGENCIES)

AWARD WINNING TOY COMPANY

PA for Sales Director

An average day might include some dictation or audio typing, sharing responsibility at a Hamleys or Woolworths presentation, liaising with New York, Hong Kong or our West Country factory, booking air-tickets and writing to Walt Disney.

Are you worth c. £18,000 ?

CV to WORLDS APART LTD

4 Union Court, 18-20 Union Road
London SW4 6JP F:0171 622 7975

JUNIOR SECRETARY/CLERICAL ASSISTANT

Required to assist in our busy Knightsbridge residential sales office. Windows 95 skills, along with good typing and pleasant telephone manner essential. Mon-Fri, 9-6. Suit bright college leaver. Immediate start. Salary neg aae. Good future prospects.

Post or fax *your CV with covering letter to:* Mr Roger Nield/Mr James Collins at Keith Cardale Groves, 251 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge SW3 2EP. Fax: 0171-581 8579.

(No agencies).

The Airline Seat Company

The Airline Seat Company Ltd, is a young, dynamic organisation covering a broad range of activities from consolidation to tour programmes through our Canadian & American Affair operations. We are expanding rapidly and looking for the following person-

ADMINISTRATOR SECRETARY

The position involves a range of secretarial duties, as well as the compilation of training schedules and liaison with airlines and suppliers.
Experience of Microsoft Office along with audio typing ability would be a distinct advantage. An attractive salary is on offer with other benefits
All applications in writing with current C.V. and salary progression to:

The Managing Director
The Airline Seat Company
591 Fulham Road London SW6 5UA

PA TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Unmissable Opportunity!
£18 - £20,000

A lively position for an experienced pro-active PA to work for a young dynamic Chief Executive - This is an involved role and the ability to juggle jobs simultaneously is a must!

Co-ordinating company-wide meetings and conferences, liaising with international offices and Directors and organising travel arrangements are just some of the duties involved. 60wpm, Word, *Excel, WP5.1 essential. Experience in minute taking preferable.*

Contact Kimberly Millward for further details on 0171 377 6222 or Fax CV on 0171 377 1022.

Eden Brown Recruitment Ltd,
2 Plough Yard, London EC2A 3LP.

TOUR OPERATING OPPORTUNITIES *IN WILTSHIRE*

CV Travel, the Chelsea based specialist villa holiday company, is setting up a country office near Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

We are looking for the following staff:

Experienced sales staff with a tour operating or retail travel background to work on our Corfu and Paxos villa programme. Candidates should have good sales and communication skills and be computer literate.

Graduate trainees who are seeking a career in tour operating.

PA to the Managing Director. Candidates should have good organisational and communication skills and be conversant with Microsoft Word and Excel. (Could be full or part-time position).

All positions will be based in our new office at Great Somerford therefore candidates must be able to drive and have their own transport.

Salaries a.a.e. Please apply in writing with CV to:-

John Bethell, CV Travel, 43 Cadogan Street,
London SW3 2PR.

HOBSTONES

HR ADMINISTRATOR
up to £18,000

An opportunity has arisen for a confident individual with previous Human Resources experience to *provide full secretarial and admin* support to a HR Manager within a Blue Chip company in W1. Working on a one to one basis with this young ambitious manager you will be given tremendous scope to develop your secretarial and personnel skills. This involving and challenging role demands good organisational skills, creative flair, flexible attitude and the ability to liaise at all levels. 50wpm typing and good knowledge of word for windows essential. benefits include 25 days annual leave, private health and pension scheme.

CALL MILLIE PIERRE-LOUIS
0171 437 6032

RECRUITMENT

MMMMM......
I WONDER.....?

PERMANENT

PA Sec Museum up to £25,000 AAE SW7 (Ref S198)
- High level position working for Director
- Supervision of budgets. Excel and Word
- Minute taking of meetings. Shorthand 80 wpm
- Benefits: 25 days hol, STL, Gym, Subs canteen

Product Marketing Exec Software Systems £30,000 EC1 (Ref G152)
- Analysis and Assessment of Market Opportunities
- Event management. ACT Knowledge
- Product market research experience
- Benefits: STL, Pension, Health Insurance

Human Resources Accountants £25,000 AAE EC1 (Ref G180)
- Recruitment Administrator - Interviewing and induction of new recruits
- Must have experience of interviewing candidates IT skills, Personnel related admin
- Benefits: Hours 9.30 - 5.30, 20 days hols, pension at 30+, STL

Admin Secretary Jewellers £18,000 W1 (Ref S201)
- 50% administration. MSW & Excel
- Working for Premises/Operations Manager & Financial Controller
- Benefits: STL, Staff restaurants, Pensions, Discount

PERMANENT

Conveyancing PA Property £23,000 SW7 (Ref S196)
- Legal experience. WordPerfect 6 or 5.1
- Smart company near Gloucester Road
- Audio typing, meeting deadlines
- Overtime paid at £15.00 per hour

Admin Secretary Luxury Goods £18,500 SW1 (Ref S197)
- Marketing Department. Supporting communications and Fragrance teams. Liaison with Advertising agency
- Benefits: LV, Pension, Discount, BUPA, 20 days hols

HR Manager Hospital £22,000 SE1 (Ref G188)
- Advising managers on HR issues ie Law, Health and Safety etc
- Benefits 20 days hol, Private health care

Office Manager/Facilities Property Co £17,250 (Ref S200)
- Maternity leave - 6 month contract
- Liaison with *Marketing Department*, handling invoices
- Windows 95. Typing 50 wpm
- Benefits: STL and Bonus

Receptionist Design Co £17,000 SE1 (Ref R50)
- Friendly well presented candidate
- Gorgeous reception area planned
- Media background desirable. 35 wpm

WORKING
Recruitment

Working Wonders (Recruitment) Ltd.
31 Villiers Street, London WC2N 6ND
(next door to BR Charing Cross)

T (0171) 930 9080 F (0171) 839 2412

ICD

PA

A leading direct marketing company requires a well organised confident graduate with at least two years experience for this challenging role. *In addition to* excellent secretarial skills (spreadsheets essential) you will need to work well under pressure. A knowledge of printing/publishing would be an advantage. You also will be expected to liaise closely with both suppliers and clients so shrinking violets need not apply!

Please write enclosing your CV to Abra Reid, ICD Marketing Services Ltd, Garden Floor, Bain House, 16 Connaught Place, London W2 2EP

CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE?
TOP NOTCH COMPUTER OPERATOR NEEDED TO RUN MAINTENANCE DESK OF A BSI APPROVED TELECOM COMPANY, SHOULD HAVE EXCELLENT *COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS AND THE ABILITY* TO ORGANISE.
TEL: JAY HAGGAS
0171 591 7106 or FAX C.V. TO 0171 591 7112

CENTRE POINT GROUP

BANKING AND SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

Career Secretary c£23,000
(approx £27K package)

Exciting opportunity within a thriving & expanding City organisation for a real team player. We are *seeking a young career secretary who enjoys* a challenge with a minimum of 1 year secretarial experience, educated to A level standard and excellent interpersonal skills to join one of the most prestigious companies in the city.

Call Averil Carr or Hilary Quinlan
on 0171 588 5888 Fax: 0171 588 8010
16 St Helen's Place, London EC3A 6DP.

PA GERMAN
Central London - £20K

PA to Head of European Operations of a medium-sized engineering company. Suitable candidate must have fluent GERMAN, whilst good FRENCH as well as an interest in marketing would be an asset.

PA/OFFICE COORDINATOR
Middx/London - circa £18K

Liaison with offices in France and other European locations, secretarial support for European Sales & Marketing Director. Fluent FRENCH, fast typing, business experience, commitment.

Multilingual
services

0171 930 4660
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

[illegible] من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

Telephone:
0171 680 6806

Crème de la Crème

Fax:
0171 782 7586

HIGH FINANCE
£21,000

Unusually, this exciting international area of corporate finance does not demand long hours. As secretarial assistant to a team of three you will liaise with clients, organise dinners, and arrange complex itineraries. Good prospects for a career person.
Skills 80/60wpm.
Please telephone **0171 628 9529.**

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RECRUITMENT
£20,000

There are brilliant benefits and opportunities with this blue chip company. Extremely varied role, including assisting with professional recruitment administration. Requires a good communicator with secretarial skills and numeracy. 5 GCSEs inc English & Maths.
Please telephone **0171 628 9529.**

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

LEGAL MEDIA
£21,000

This international Film/Television company has a number of vacancies for career PAs with legal experience. These are senior positions in a world renowned organisation which offers a lively, progressive environment.
60wpm.

Please telephone **0171 495 2321.**

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BILINGUAL PA
£27,000

Prestigious Knightsbridge store needs a true PA for very senior level role. You will be given full encouragement to develop and expand the role in extremely commercial environment.
50wpm.

Please telephone **0171 495 2321.**

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RICHMOND
£30,000

PA to MD in dynamic new HR/Financial consultancy. Excellent opportunity for committed, flexible individual.
Windows 95,
60wpm.

Please telephone **0171 495 2321.**

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Battersea, 5 mins Clapham Junction
Interior Design
up to £20,000 + fab discounts

A beautiful sunny courtyard, a light airy office, and close to shops, transport and eateries and away from the West End! This interior design company are looking for a mature, friendly Office Administrator to handle all aspects of running the organisation; writing & typing correspondence, travel arrangements, day to day accounts, invoice admin, monitoring supplies, etc. They're a relaxed, down-to-earth group of people and so you must be of like-minded and enjoy 'mucking in' (no budding designers please!). If you're 30yrs+ and this sounds ideal for you, call us now.

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

OFFICE MANAGER/PA
£28,000

Do you think you could help run a small office for this medium-sized international company? Do you have self-motivation, a good business mind, excellent IT skills and a professional, confident manner? This will be "your own job" - most of the work will be generated by yourself, however, you will be an Assistant to the MD-helping with some personal projects. You'll need 50 wpm typing and a good level of numeracy (& have used a computerised accounts system) and any languages will be useful, especially German. The office is informal and relaxed and the role could develop significantly if you've got the ambition and capability. This unique role requires a unique individual and you must have senior legal experience.

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
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Please contact Jean Young, Portfolio, Arena Forum, Stockley Park, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB11 1AA. Telephone 0181 899 1702 or Fax 0181 899 1712 Initial interviews can be arranged to take place in Central or West London.

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TIME SAVERS

IF you ever create slides for a presentation you will often want to print copies for those attending, either to take away or so they can make notes.

However, while a slide can look great projected onto a screen in colour, it can look uninspiring when printed out on your black-and-white laser printer.

Unless you want to invest in an expensive colour laser or use a colour inkjet — cheaper but much slower — you need an alternative.

In PowerPoint, there is a facility which allows you not only to preview what your slide will look like in black and white, but also to optimise the colour scheme for monochrome printing.

Choose "View/Black and White" to turn the whole slide show into black and white. Then, if you find some of the black and white slides are, say, too dark to print well, right click on the offending item and choose one of the options — light grayscale is a good first choice.

Any changes you make in this way will not affect your colour, onscreen slides.

CHRIS WARD

Start at the top – and work up

Ada Parr built on her first-class office skills to become PA of the year, says Susan MacDonald

Ada Parr is just too good to be true — and it seems this is all down to hard work, intelligence and skill.

Judged *Yellow Pages* PA of the year, she has not only landed top secretarial jobs throughout her career, but when she was unable to recruit good secretaries for a company she worked for she took a two-year City and Guilds course to become a *lecturer in the secretarial skills* she was looking for.

Miss Parr, 41, says she entered for PA of the year with no thought of even getting on the shortlist, let alone winning. She had been egged on by her boss, Peter Hehir, chairman of the public relations consultancy Countrywide Porter Novelli, who calls *her a world-class personal* assistant. His official reward for supporting her is a luxury weekend break for two.

She has certainly revolutionised the secretarial role in the company. "The word secretary is not used here," Ms Parr says. "Those who work on a one-to-one basis with their boss are called PAs and those working as part of a client handling team are communication assistants."

"Before I joined there was a regular secretarial lunch, but I thought this was not good enough," she says. So in order to promote and support their work she set up a PA network called Pals (personal assistants' learning support) which covers Countrywide Porter Novelli's six offices, including one in Brussels.

"We *share best practice on a* daily basis and I have written a training manual for all support staff, setting out what is expected and detailing the different areas of expertise, such as telephone technique and client handling. We all learn about these areas, even if they are not part of our daily work," she says.

Ms Parr was born in St Andrews and after leaving school with the Scottish equivalent of eight O levels and four A levels, gained a qualification in secretarial studies with German, German shorthand, and French.

You could say she started at the top and worked her way up. Certainly her CV makes it clear that she deserves her award. Her first job, as PA to the managing director of a German hydraulics manufacturer, lasted six years — including a year in Germany — *before she was head hunted to* be PA to the managing director and technical translator for another German company.

"I spoke German and used German shorthand everyday in those two jobs," she says.

Then came a two-year job as a chairman's assistant and another two-year job as a managing director's PA, *before she decided to use the* further education qualifications she had gained.

"I had contacted City and Guilds in the Seventies because I found it impossible to find people with good secretarial skills — especially shorthand," she says.

"Their answer was to tell me to come and qualify as a teacher of the *skills I* was looking for. So I went on a training course twice a week *for two years."* In 1989 she became a college lecturer for three years, teaching German, French, clerical procedure, secretarial studies and office administration.

She went on to be an office manager for three years before joining her present company last year. Now, she says, she is trying to ensure that she keeps her French up to scratch by using it consistently in her dealings with the Brussels *office. Alongside this concentrated* career she found time to marry and has a daughter, now aged 23.

Along with her title goes a list of speaking engagements, including an appearance at next year's Crème de la Crème exhibition in London, and prizes such as a Caribbean holiday for two and a training course at The Industrial Society. She has decided to donate her Industrial Society course *to her company's Pals network* "so that we can all benefit from it".

Ms Parr says that American colleagues have been surprised by her award, saying that there is no equivalent in America. So she is working with them to try to form a group in America to promote such an award.

Her advice to *budding PAs* is to get their basic skills up to such a high standard that they *never have to worry* about them, and can feel free to get on with developing their confidence and career.

"You need to be willing to work hard and long hours, but you can get a terrific buzz from being part of things, and if you are appreciated it makes a big difference to your whole attitude to work.

"And don't forget," she says, "you work with a boss, not for a boss."

MIKE SCOTT

Ada Parr, rated world-class by her boss: being appreciated makes a big difference to a PA's attitude to work, she says

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Language Recruitment
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BILINGUAL SEC

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Salary £14K + Benefits.

CV and photo to:
Lepretre & Partners,
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Multi-Lingual PA to Chairman
Salary c. £20,000

Personal Assistant required for Chairman of a large multi national investment Group. Must be proficient and responsible individual able to offer a professional secretarial and executive support.

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Please send CV's to:
Miss Tayma Aachi
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London W14 8NS
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Generous Package

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0171-824-8821.

ACTON-based public service company is looking for a top PA with c.5 years' senior PA experience to support busy MD in expanding London office. 100 wpm shorthand and experience on MS Office a must. Please call Martine Doyrings on 0171 493 8824 at Judy Farquharson Ltd Recruitment Consultants, 47 New Bond Street, London W1.

A PA/Sec to Snr Ptnr £21k, International Accountants, NW4. Overseas Liaison/A1 skills. 0181 209 1858 Fame Agy

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"AD MAN" - £20,000 + bonus. Top advertising co based in the heart of the West End req. dynamic, self starter capable of managing own projects & lateral thinking. Exp PA with P/point age 20's/30's. Norma Skemp Rec Ltd: 0171 491 0707

CHARISMATIC, young & jet setting MD of major int entertainment Co seeks like minded PA. To £25k + 5 wks hols. Mainstream (Agy) 0171 495 1890.

"BOSSY-BOOTS"
Sec/Receptionist req. for popular household name city consits. Brilliant for the born organiser who knows and loves Word (60wpm) & Powerpoint. A great Company to add to your CV. 0171-556 7075 / fax 0171 - 556 7475 B&Y Agy

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CHELSEA based private company is looking for a sec/recep to join a friendly small office with a busy team which will provide variety and enjoyment but won't keep you awake at night! If your career isn't your first priority but you like job satisfaction this is an ideal opportunity in a great location - would suit mum returning to work!! Age 35-45 WP 40+wpm Sal £18,000. Call Anderson Hoare 0171 824 8821.

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Young, expanding publishing company needs a *motivated* individual to help manage and market publications and conferences as well as to provide general administrative support to our growing business. *Applicants must* be well organised, enthusiastic, numerate, accurate, computer literate and have a good telephone manner.

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Interested applicants should send a CV to:
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or fax to: 0171-248 6501

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Hours 9am - 6pm.

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CHAIRMAN'S Sec: opportunity to develop your career by working hand-in-hand with PA to Chairman of incredibly well known West End company. You need shorthand c80 wpm, a min of 1 (pref 2) years secretarial experience, a good sense of humour and strong interpersonal skills. Working in a team to support this high profile man, you will have your own separate areas of responsibility. Your dedication and conscientious approach will be rewarded with up to £22,000 (aae) plus profit share & 5 weeks hols. Excellent career springboard. Call Jo Tennant at Susan Doughty Recruitment on 0171 491 7911.

CHELSEA Harbour - Senior PA to Chief Executive Office and Finance Director. Working as part of close knit team in pharmaceutical company. IT, literacy, audio and ability to pick up on technical language essential. £20,000. Call Alison Scott on 0171-434-4512 Crone Corkhill Rec Cons.

CLIENT Co-ordinator £24,000 This company handles a form of PR for clients needing help with presentations and in turn they need help with co-ordinating the executives who do this. Good admin skills and plenty of initiative essential. Fax CV's 0171 734 4905 Sarah Stewart-Smith Rec 0171 734 5955.

EXEC PA. £27K + Bens. Full support in running Chairman + Chief Exec's office of large financial co. Involved role including research, PR + fun PA duties. Initial 1 year contract. Related snr level exp. 55wpm + Windows req. Age 25-38. Peter. Next Emp 0171 287 3644

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MATERNITY Leave Cover (Excellent contract). Highly skilled PA to work 1:1 with Executive Search Consultant in lovely offices and with friendly team. Lots of client contact. Start beginning December. Must have excellent secretarial and communication skills, fast accurate typing (75 wpm+). Powerpoint & Excel (6mths could lead to perm). Mitchell Young (Rec Cons) on 0171-588-3065 or fax CV on 0171-588-3066.

MUM/Returner Sec - A small Knightsbridge HQ needs a good organiser/administrator secretary to assist office manager in all the admin for this multi national company £15,000.00 p.a. + flex hours! Joyce Guiness Partnership 0171 589 8807 (Agy).

2nd-Jobber - £19000 + package. Two young secs to organise travel, diaries and run the office for a small dynamic team of expert property developers. Stunning properties in UK and Europe (could use French). Must have good W4W and Audio. Age 19+. Bgeaw Rec. 0171 373 7779.

2nd SECRETARY - c£20,000 - top PA requires hardworking assistant with excellent telephone manner, good shorthand + ability to write own correspondence. Interesting role as working for a major palyer in the creative sector. Grosvenor Bureau Tel: 0171 499 6566 Fax: 0171 493 6320.

OFFICE PA/Administrator Required for Britain's Premier Balloon decorating Service across the board experience essential. Salary negotiable. Moving to Central London very soon. Send CV to The Big Bang, Studio 36, Shepperton Studios, Shepperton, Middx, TW17 0QD.

P.A./Secretary £24,000 Min 75wpm, good organisational /Admin skills, age max 30. Estab Co NW1 0171-831-7622 P.Clayman Agy.

PA/OFFICE Mgr for small property co. assisting two Senior Partners, organising social functions, negotiating contracts. Audio & Excel ess. £18,000 + bonus. 0171-493 2888 Heritage Rec.

PA to Chief Executive - International Church-based women's organisation in London SW1 requires full-time PA to Chief Executive. Chosen candidate will have a Christian commitment and at least two year's experience of working at a senior level in a relevant organisation. Must be educated to at least A level standard, with fast accurate WP skills (Word Perfect 6/Windows 95), excellent personal and communication skills and the ability to work on own initiative and under pressure. Salary on a scale according to age and experience. For further information and application form write Box 8389 Closing date for applications Weds. 19 Nov.

PA with French to £25,000 + bens. Rare opportunity for exceptional Secretary - mid 20s - who is ready for their next career challenge. Assisting the Executive Assistant to the Chairman of a City company, you will interact directly with the Chairman; duties include helping with the day to day running of the office, dealing with correspondence, diary management & travel. You must be able to work to your own deadlines, have W4W/40 wpm Typing/Powerpoint. Call Mitchell Young (Rec Cons) on 0171-588-3065 or fax CV on 0171-588-3066.

PERSONNEL Asst to co-ordinate Grad Recruitment + Training. A varied responsible role. Exp. needed, £18k + bens. 0171 493 2888 Heritage Rec.

S AMERICAN TV - c£16,000 - young team player with good typing/secretarial skills to join friendly distribution Co. Grosvenor Bureau Tel: 0171 499 6566 Fax: 0171 493 6320.

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SECRETARY/Girl Friday required full time (weekdays) for West End antiques shop. Must be able to use word processor (IBM Microsoft Works). Shorthand an advantage. Telephone 0171 839 4033.

SECRETARY Required for immediate start at busy Knightsbridge Estate Agents. Plaza Estates 0171 581 7646.

SEN SEC for Uxbridge c£22K+ One to one for Chairman. Mature, good org staff control. Must have sense of humour for the pressure times. Telecoms co. Car helpful 0171 259 6999 Lynn Morris. Beauchamp Bur.

SOCIAL/PRIVATE Secretary £25,000-£30,000 required for wealthy international businessman with many varied interests. Based in his private London home, you will be involved in the running of several UK and foreign properties. UK Business and charitable interests as well as social functions. Skills 80/60 & Fluent French preferred. Please call Angela Mortimer plc (Rec Cons) on 0171 814 0800.

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VICTORIA Mgmnt Consits invite enterprising & enthusiastic "2nd Sec jobber" to join their flourishing team. Buzzy and informal environment with plentiful perks pay and prospects. 0171-556 7075/ Fax 0171-556 7475 B&Y Agy

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Trident Safeguards are currently seeking a Front of House Receptionist for our blue chip assignment in Central London. Candidates should be aged 25 to 40 years and have extensive experience in all front of house activities. A pleasant personality and the ability to work as part of a close knit team which will include liaison with security staff, clients and visitors in this multi tenanted office complex are pre requisites of the position. Applicants should be available for employment at short notice.

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TEMPTING TIMES

POLISHED professional Receptionist for Blue Chip West End Co - begin Monday. Covent Garden Bureau 0171 495 8822.

RECEPTION SELECTION

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MATURE Recep (40's) - c£14,000 - very successful Co need polished, professional + calm receptionist. (Returner considered). Grosvenor Bureau 0171 499 6566 Fax 0171 493 6320

POLISHED and exp telephonist / receptionist £16,500 - £17,000. Outgoing and friendly and able to work in very busy environment. Min 3 years relevant exp. 0171 493 7001 Secretaries Plus, rec. cons.

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£18,300, 5 weeks hols, free lunch + other benefits for professional and smart receptionist/telephonist (age 25-30) in stylish central London offices. Hrs 8.30 - 4.00 and 11.00 - 6.30 rotating weekly. King & Tobin Recruitment 0171 629-9648 fax 0171 408-0579

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SEC/TEL Major city co req exp'd receptionist to work 8.30am to 1.30pm £11,250 + pkg. Age 25-45 yrs Call 0171-505-2900 Oakland Assoc (Agy)

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST £12,500 + Bonus. Well groomed, well spoken polished experienced receptionist sought for this plum position in a Mayfair based international investment bank. Stunning reception area, hours 8.30-2 pm. Monday-Friday. 30wpm typing + Windows & Meridian s/board required. Please call 0171 637 3212 Summers By Two Rec Cons.

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هذا من الإهمال

هكذا من الأصل

Joseph Connolly previews some curiosities on offer at all prices from Britain's specialist book dealers at this week's gathering in London

Bound to be a big attraction

To many dedicated book lovers, Guy Fawkes Day means just one thing: the Chelsea book fair is two day's away, offering its customary selection of literary fireworks with not a damp squib among them.

More than 80 dealers will be unpacking a range of delights at this informal book fair. Prices peak at £20,000, though they start as low as £10.

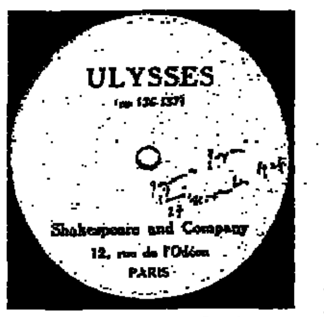
At the top end of the market, there is an offering from London dealer Simon Finch that isn't a book at all, but one of just 30 pressings made of James Joyce's only recording of a section of *Ulysses*. It was recorded in France in 1924 for Sylvia Beach of the legendary Paris bookshop Shakespeare and Company. Only seven other copies are known to survive intact — hence the £20,000 tag.

A literary landmark from another age is offered by Henry Sotheran of Sackville Street: a folio two-volume first edition of Samuel Johnson's *Dictionary of the English Language* (1755). It is a very good copy, rebound in period style full calf and a highly desirable item at £8,750.

G & D Marrin and Sons — the Folkestone dealer specialising in books on the First World War — was founded 50 years ago by the present owner's late father, George, himself a veteran of Ypres and the Somme. One of the most attractive items on offer is a first edition of Wilfred Owen's *Poems* (1920) in original cloth and with an introduction by Siegfried Sassoon (£425).

A range of World War One books includes a military map of northern Gallipoli, printed in Egypt in 1915, for £150. Even more fascinating is a military manual of the same date: *Battalion Drill* for £25.

S. K. Biltcliffe is a particularly interesting London dealer, specialising in 19th-century industry and life generally. He boasts a a huge range so let me select R. Baskervill's *Illustrated Catalogue of Fountain Designs* (not dated, £200); the charm of this book lies in the 29 woodcuts that depict the extraordinary patterns made by the swirling of water in all sorts of corkscrew configurations. I was also attracted to an American publication of 1884 entitled *Arsenic as a Domestic Poison* (£485), containing genuine examples of wallpaper and children's school writing paper — all of which used arsenic in their manufacture, with not so much as a "do not lick" warning between them.



Joyce's pressing of *Ulysses*

Children's books are especially popular when Christmas looms. Surrey dealer Elizabeth Gant is showing a good selection of all the favourites — Beatrix Potter, Arthur Rackham, Florence Upton and others. Particularly attractive are three original pen drawings by Edward Ardizzone for *The Eleanor Farjeon Book* of 1966 at £800 to £900 each. For car lovers, the same dealer has a range of Louis Wain's books — an acquired taste, these caricatures, but undeniably fashionable at the moment.

A signed photo of Queen Victoria, priced £1,500

Most desirable among them would be a hitherto unrecorded item — a very good copy of Louis Wain's *Painting Book* (1912, £500). More affordable than the cats, is the Mouse — in the form of a collection of the Thirties' comic *Mickey Mouse Weekly* at only £10 each. Robin Greer, another specialist in children's books, is also offering a very good selection, concentrating on fairy tales and illustrations.

Altogether different is a magnificent volume of 1773 entitled *A Voyage to the South Seas in His Majesty's Ship The Endeavour*. This contains 27 fine engraved plates by Sydney Parkinson, recording the botany, and native chiefs encountered on Captain Cook's voyage: £4,950 from Bernard Shapero.

Sophie Dupré has amassed an extraordinary collection of 250 items relating to the Windsors — originally intended to form a companion piece to Sotheby's now postponed sale of artefacts from the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's Bois de Boulogne residence. The range includes some superb photographs of the Duke as King, as well as signed pictures of both the Duke and Duchess.

The range and quality at this year's fair is as good as ever. There is everything from the sublime to the downright quirky. An example of the latter could possibly be a pamphlet of 1946 available from Garwood & Voigt at just £18: *Camp Cooking for Boy Scouts* — not to be missed.

● *The Chelsea book fair is at Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3 on Friday November 7, 2pm-8pm and Saturday November 8, 11am-6pm, entrance £2.*

An engraved plate by Sydney Parkinson from Captain Cook's 1773 South Seas expedition

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A pas de trois at Covent Garden?

Chris Smith has ignited the biggest arts row for years. The Culture Secretary's proposal, floated out of the blue on Monday, is that English National Opera abandons the Coliseum and shares Covent Garden with the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet when that theatre reopens after its redevelopment. All three companies are in grave financial difficulties. But is such a radical plan desirable, or even feasible? **Rodney Milnes** and **Debra Craine**, *The Times*'s opera and dance critics, assess the implications, while **Richard Morrison** outlines the political risks

OPERA

There are several mind-boggling aspects to Monday's announcement by Chris Smith. It is more than just ironic, it is blackly tragic that the spokesman for a political party retaining the word "Labour" in its name, the party of Jennie Lee under whose guidance the provision of arts and education for the people of the UK reached new heights, should be proposing the reduction of artistic activity in the nation's capital. Smith cites as excuse a crisis, a crisis caused by ten years and more of Arts Council laisser faire inactivity in the face of Treasury intransigence which the present Government is too wet to challenge.

Smith says the nation can no longer afford two opera houses, which is hogwash: the nation could if the Government had any political will, or any vision beyond acquiring power and maintaining it by fawning on the tabloid media and blandly surrendering to the cultural values they promote. Paris has four opera houses, Berlin three, Munich two. Under new Labour's inspired leadership, is London to be reduced to the status of Oslo?

Make no mistake, what this is about is the disbandment of English National Opera. The very idea that the company and the values it upholds would survive when sharing a theatre — and an established audience — wholly unsuited to its activities is, again, laughable. If London cannot afford two opera companies, then the one to go is the Royal, recently taken over by a carpetbagger management from the source of all its ills (the Arts Council), playing to a tiny elite audience (80,000 tops) at prices that exclude all save the rich and the committed fans, and of no social relevance whatever.

The age-old, socially OK buzz-word "touring" is raised, but it is far cheaper to bring audiences to opera via the proper provision of matinees than it is to take opera on tour. I am amazed that someone of Sir Richard Eyre's experience has agreed to become associated with all this nonsense and can only hope that after due consideration he throws it back at Smith, or at whichever civil servant dreamt it up.

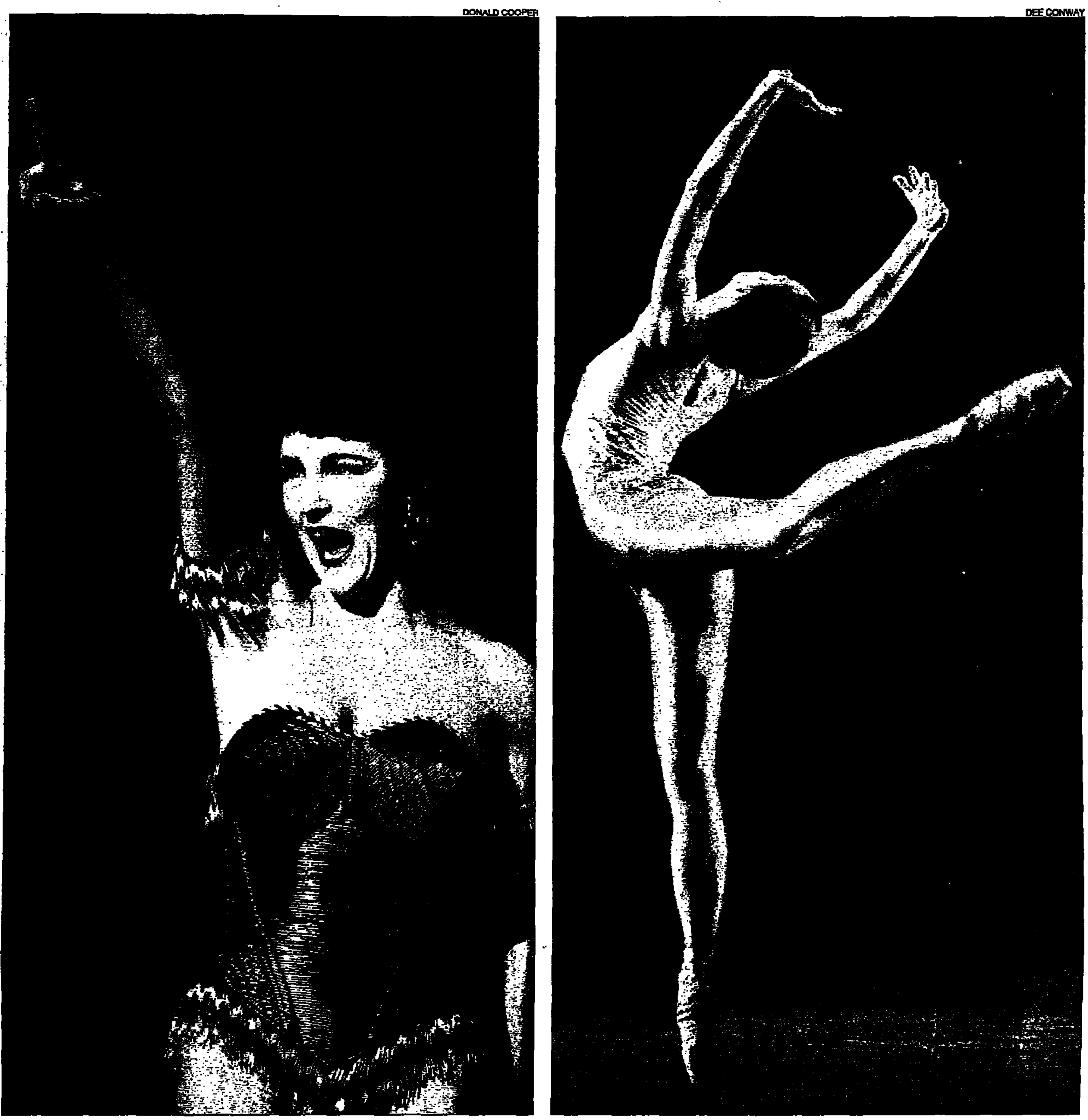
There is no mention of one significant word in the press release — language. ENO has always performed in the language of the audience, something that composers have taken for granted since opera was "invented" 400 years ago. And there is also little mention of management: would ENO's values be safe in the hands of any of the current Covent Garden bosses?

There has been too much gleeful anticipation of redundancies, of throwing in the bin hundreds of highly skilled craftsmen who over the past 50 years have led to London being recognised as one of the leading operatic centres in the world — and they started from virtually nothing. But that is the philistine UK all over: see something we do well, and destroy it.

Chris Smith has been quoted as describing himself as "a realist". I can think of a number of other names, of which "pragmatist" is one of the more polite. He is certainly a procrastinator: shove the decision-making on to someone else and wait for six months.

Admittedly he has a problem. The sensible provision of opera in the capital would involve one 2,000-seat house for international opera and another of 1,200 for ENO. If he can only "afford" one, then the latter is the only option. But he is stuck with the irreversible lottery grant to the ROH, and has to put something in it. Except that he could turn it into a dance hall, a feat previously achieved by one Adolf Hitler.

RODNEY MILNES



DONALD COOPER

DEE CONWAY

Room at Covent Garden for all sorts? Lesley Garrett (left) epitomises the ENO style in *Die Fledermaus*; while Darcey Bussell shows the Royal Ballet at its finest in *Amores*

DANCE

As usual when the Royal Opera House is the subject of heated debate, the ballet barely gets a mention. In all the news coverage that followed Chris Smith's announcement, hardly a thought was spared for the poor old Royal Ballet, Britain's premier dance company and resident at Covent Garden for half a century (longer, in fact, than the Royal Opera itself). Chris Smith's letter to Sir Richard Eyre, setting out the terms of the review, doesn't seem to take into account the effect of his proposals on the Royal Ballet. The Culture Secretary, like just about everyone else, clearly sees this as an opera problem.

At first glance his plan, should it go ahead, is bad news for the Royal Ballet. Already struggling to achieve parity with the Royal Opera within the Opera House organisation, the ballet company would now find itself sharing a house with not one but two opera companies. If it was difficult for the ballet to get its fair share before, it would be well nigh impossible under the Smith scenario.

Squeezed into third place by two rival opera companies, the ballet would inevitably find itself with fewer performances, reduced rehearsal time and a battle for limited resources at an overworked opera house. It wouldn't be long before serious artistic compromises would have to be made. Given that part of the reason for the Opera House's massive redevelopment is to accommodate more dance performances and more dance programmes — in other words to allow dance to realise its full potential in the new house — this would seem to be a betrayal of all the promises made to the Royal Ballet.

But look a little closer and another sequence of events presents itself, one in which the Royal Ballet could find itself king of a different castle. That castle is the Coliseum, current home of English National Opera. The Culture Secretary has suggested that once ENO moves out, the Coliseum could be sold or rented out. One can sympathise with his new Labour desire to save taxpayers' money, but is he really prepared to throw away this theatrical gem? For here is a golden opportunity to secure the future of large-scale dance in London: let the Royal Ballet move to the Coliseum.

As everyone in the dance world knows, the old lady of St Martin's Lane is a superlative dance venue, with wonderful sightlines and a beautiful large stage. The kind of classical extravaganzas offered by the Royal Ballet would look splendid on its stage (as the company will discover next July when it presents its summer season there). And, as Dance Umbrella proved earlier this year with its Mark Morris season, large-scale contemporary dance is eminently saleable at the 2,350-seat Coliseum.

While ENO and the Royal Opera grab the lion's share of performances at Covent Garden, the Royal Ballet could take its big productions to the Coliseum. It could share the house with English National Ballet — which already enjoys Christmas seasons there and would dearly love to expand its Coliseum presence — and there would still be room for visiting foreign companies. With the country's two largest companies performing in a Coliseum designated as a dance house, the provision for large-scale dance in the capital would, at long last, be secured.

There will be those resistant to the idea of taking the ballet out of Covent Garden and some will no doubt fight to keep it there. But if the Government really does foresee a future in which Covent Garden is London's only opera house, the only hope for dance is to find its own home.

If Sir Richard Eyre is going to take his brief seriously — and he undoubtedly will — he must be prepared to fit dance into the equation. The provision of large-scale dance in London is an issue which has been talked about for years. Here is a chance to turn all that talk into action.

DEBRA CRAINE

POLITICS

Chris Smith badly needed to pull a rabbit out of the hat. Perhaps this startling *ménage à trois* at the Garden will be it. His first six months as Culture Secretary have been undistinguished, to put it mildly. He was wrongfooted, and then just plain wrong, when he endorsed Mary Allen's hasty appointment to the Royal Opera House. He huffed and puffed to humiliatingly little effect over Camelot's "fat cat" directors. He watched helpless as the Millennium Dome was removed from his portfolio.

And all the while the managerial disarray and elitist ethos of Covent Garden — the country's most highly-subsidised arts institution — mocked two of new Labour's most cherished commitments: to be prudent stewards of taxpayers' money; and to make the arts accessible to ordinary people.

So the timing of his announcement — just before he was grilled by Gerald Kaufman — had a whiff of political expediency to it. So did the decision to wrap the proposal in a "review" by the saintly Sir Richard Eyre. Indeed, some feel that Eyre would be one of the few personalities capable of holding together an "all-embracing" Covent Garden.

Nevertheless, Smith's strategy is full of risks. Irrespective of what conclusion Eyre reaches, the Culture Secretary has clearly signalled his views on London's operatic and dance life. Now he must face the wrath of Covent Garden's rich benefactors, the unions (who will suspect, probably correctly, that many jobs could be shed by two opera companies sharing the same house), and the ardent supporters of the companies and their very different performing and marketing styles.

There is one other intriguing dimension. What has been the role of the Arts Council this week? The answer is: it hasn't had one. The Arts Council has been completely bypassed by the Smith initiative. With a chairman on the way out, and no secretary-general at all, it has effectively been declared irrelevant to the biggest arts debate for decades.

That shatters the "arm's length principle", intended to deter politicians from meddling directly in the running of arts organisations. Whether it also sounds the death-knell for the Arts Council itself remains to be seen.

RICHARD MORRISON

POP: Gutsy country-rock from a reformed Texan rabble-rouser; plus pummelling French electronics

Blood, sweat and a few tears

Steve Earle
Olympia, Dublin

There can be few artists currently drawing breath who have walked it and talked it like Steve Earle. A reformed heroin addict who has spent almost as much time behind bars as in them, he has so many former wives that Henry VIII must have been his marriage guidance counsellor.

But if Earle's life story sounds like every social worker's worst nightmare, his music is all the more potent for it. For one can almost taste the blood, sweat and tears shared by the characters in his songs.

More often than not, they are outsiders, outlaws, outspoken. Theirs are lives that walk the high-tension line between self destruction and redemption.

Indeed, Earle himself seems to have negotiated that wire successfully. He is now apparently drink and drug-free and happily remarried, and in his spare time he is to be found lending his fervent support to the campaign to abolish capital punishment.

He has also just released his finest album to date, *El Corazon* — most of which was written while he was on sabbatical in Ireland — and with this concert he kicked off an extensive European tour that reaches London at the end of the month.

Returning to the same venue he played last March, whence he paraded his expertise as a gritty story-telling troubadour in the tradition of his late friend and mentor Townes Van Zandt, this time the Texan-bred singer brought with him the Dukes, a fluid and highly accomplished bunch of musicians. Together they produced what turned out to be, in the end, a hugely satisfying evening of gutsy country-rock and spine-tingling folk ballads that touched several stylistic bases, from Nashville country to Seattle grunge via Texan folk and even a smattering of bluegrass.

Admittedly it took a while for the band (Buddy Miller, guitar, Kelly Looney, bass, and new recruit Brady Blade, drums) really to get going, owing to evident opening night rustiness, combined with prolonged technical problems with guitar leads which should really have been sorted out during rehearsals and the soundcheck.

Indeed, the band's two roadies were conspicuous by their presence for much of the evening, and even seemed to revel in their visibility.

The two-and-a-quarter-hour set produced many highlights. New songs such as *Christmas in Washington* and *Ft Worth Blues* already sound like timeless classics, while the Byrdsian chimes of *If You Fall* neatly slotted in with raucous live favourites like *Copperhead Road* and a rebel-rousing *Johnny Come Lately*.

But when the great Emmylou Harris stepped from the wings to duet on *Goodbye*, so too did the lump in my throat.

NICK KELLY

Crowd pleasers

Daft Punk
Cambridge

The American rock writer Greil Marcus has described Daft Punk as "the best pop group in the history of Paris — not that there's been much competition since Royer Collard and the Doctrinaires". Recently, though, the competition has intensified. The French dance scene has provided a feast of rivals, such as DJ Cam and I:Cube. Nonetheless, it is still Daft Punk who are having the greatest impact here, especially after the release this year of their debut album *Homework*.

For their first UK tour, which kicked off at the Cambridge Corn Exchange, they have recruited another member of the French new wave, Dimitri from Paris, to act as supporting DJ. His session blends seamlessly with Daft Punk, making the division between DJ and performer ever finer: so fine, in fact, that the Musicians Union has at last recognised DJs as musicians.

The two young Parisians — Guy-Manuel de Homen Christo and Thomas Bangaltar — do not so much make music as play the crowd, eliciting whoops and frantic waving as they boost the tempo.

Their show is organised around ruthlessly pared-down rhythms, each built from scraps of noise. There are no melodies or voices, no songs, just pummelling beats and truncated riffs. Daft Punk's sound is pure electronics; there is little attempt to emulate traditional instruments. It honks and wheezes, screeches and fizzes.

The two performers stand alone in the centre of the vast stage, their faces cast in shadow. Around them are scattered a barrage of lighting effects, where bulbs flash and twitch restlessly. Further distraction comes from a twin screen backdrop onto which are projected images of breakdancers, of mock brand names and of swirling patterns.

This is not an event for those who want to nod gently to well-crafted songs. It is for those who want to dance to the music of technology.

JOHN STREET

Freedom chained

JAZZ

Butch Morris
Oxford

If the few moments of profound music-making, rewarding listening and genuine flair scattered through Butch Morris's ten-CD retrospective *Testament* are anything to go by, the odds are that not many of his seven UK appearances will contain these ingredients. During the past 20 years, Morris has abandoned a career as a major creative force in jazz in favour of pursuing his theory of "Conduction".

Essentially this involves using a vocabulary of formal gesture to direct ensemble improvisation, using no score or prearranged material, but simply relying on the improvisatory resources of his musicians and on his own ability to shape their performance with his baton. At the heart of this idea is a paradox — how could a performance be freely improvised if it is being conducted?

In Morris's *Conduction No 84*, given at the Oxford Contemporary Music Festival, his 22-piece ensemble contained a galaxy of Britain's best-known free players, but it seemed many of them were inhibited by this very paradox, the size of the ensemble suppressing the improvisatory ideas of its members. Only violinist Aleks Kolkowski and trumpeter Byron Wallen — who may have lost marks from his stony-faced colleagues for (a) moving about and (b) smiling — created lengthy enough and sufficiently shaped solo parts to emerge from the mêlée. Even soprano saxophonist Evan Parker, normally so resourceful on such occasions, seemed to resort to self-parody when Morris encouraged him to be heard.

The concert became an exercise in texture. Since (apart from a handful of passages spurred by Morris's downbeats) the performance was largely arrhythmic, and since so little melodic content surfaced, it could hardly be otherwise.

There were moments when Morris conjured some sublime shadings from his ensemble, especially in his handling of the strings, making use of Zoë Martlow's cello arpeggios and Philipp Wachsmann's laconic viola glissandi. But in more than 90 minutes of music, texture alone is insufficient to hold an audience's attention, and by the last piece a third of the crowd had voted with their feet.

ALYN SHIPTON

مجدا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

LONDON

ROMEO AND JULIET Ray Fearon and Zoe Waites play the kids in love. Short London run for Michael Attenborough's production before returning to *Stratford*
Barbican (The Pit) Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Opens tonight, 7.15pm Then Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Thur and Sat, 2pm. Until Nov 15 Ⓢ

THE SLOW DRAG: Jazz musical by Carson Kreitzer, loosely based on the story of Billy Tipton, a woman who passed as a man to find work as a jazz musician. Liza Sadovy joins Kim Criswell and Christopher Colquhoun from Lisa Forrell's Freedom Cafe production earlier this year
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Opens tonight, 9pm Then Mon-Thur, 9pm, Fri and Sat, 7pm and 9.30pm

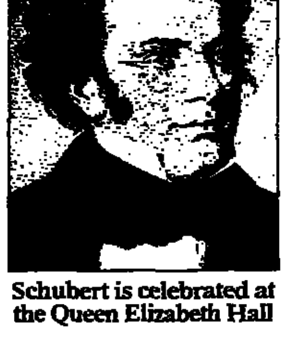
LA MALADIE DE LA MORT. Robert Wilson's visually exquisite production of the Marguerite Duras play, with Michel Piccoli and dancer Lucinda Childs. In French with English surtitles. Part of the French Theatre Season
Peacock Theatre, Portugal Street, off Kingsway, WC2 (0171-494 5090). Tonight-Sat, 8pm.

CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET: The popular chamber ensemble celebrates its 25th anniversary with a recital of Haydn's String Quartet in G followed by *a world premiere of a new work from* Robert Saxton. For the evening's second half, the Chilingirian is joined by the Endellion Quartet in a performance of Mendelssohn's Octet
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight, 7.30pm Ⓢ

SCHUBERT CELEBRATION: The baritone Matthias Goerne accompanied by Andreas Haefliger, piano, sings a choice selection of the Austrian composer's songs inspired by Goethe's poems. A number of Hugo Wolf's dramatic settings of Mörike are offered to provide a contrast to Schubert's lyrical style
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 8pm Ⓢ

ELSEWHERE

BLACKPOOL: First British performance for **Seven for a Secret never to be told** by the award-winning European dance iconoclast, Wim Vandekeybus. In his new work the Belgian choreographer and his company Ultima Vez explore the magic of the number seven and the superstitions surrounding the magpie.
Grand Theatre, Church Street (01253 28372) Tonight, 8pm Ⓢ


Schubert is celebrated at the Queen Elizabeth Hall

EDINBURGH: The acclaimed pop opera ensemble Opera Circus arrives here for two nights with its inimitable blend of physical clowning and visual and aural beauty. The company's new production, **Cat Man's Tale**, is based *on Times literary editor Erica Wagner's* short story *The Great Leonardo* and is set to music by Alasdair Nicolson.
Traverse, Cambridge Street (0131-228 1404). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm.

GLASGOW: Only British dates for **Manes**, a multimedia spectacle performed by the notorious Spanish company La Fura dels Baus.
Tramway, Albert Drive, Glasgow (0141-227 5511) Tonight-Sat, 8pm. Ⓢ

HULL: Opera North's autumn tour stops here with performances of Verdi's *Aida* tonight and Saturday, Martinů's *Julietta* tomorrow and Mozart's *Così fan tutte* on Friday
New Theatre, Kingston Square (01482 226655) Performances at 7.15pm. Ⓢ

LONDON GALLERIES

Anthony d'Offay: Roy Lichtenstein *(0171-499 4100)* .. **Barbican:** Don McCullin (0171-638 8891) **Brunei:** The European Experience of the Middle East in European books and watercolours (0171-637 2388 ext 2733) .. **Design Museum:** A tour of bicycle design history (0171-378 6055) .. **European Academy & Accademia Italiana:** Josefa de Obidos of Portugal (0171-235 0303) ... **Festival Hall:** World Press Photo 1997 (0171-960 4242) .. **National:** Holbein's Ambassadors (0171-747 2885) **National Portrait:** Sir Henry Raeburn (0171-306 0055) ... **Royal College of Art:** Artists and Anatomy (0171-590 4444) ... **Tate**. The Turner Prize Exhibition (0171-887 8000)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **ART**: Ron Cook, Nigel Havers and Malcolm Storry in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm.

☐ **THE BOYS IN THE BAND**: Mart Crowley's ground-breaking gay play from 1968 now something of a period piece with its 'gay means witty but wretched' message. Transfer from the King's Head, Islington.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Already previewing. Opens Oct 29, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thur and Sat, 3pm

◪ **A DELICATE BALANCE**: Eileen Atkins hauntingly chilling in welcome revival of Albee's play about marriage, parenthood and neighbourliness. Maggie Smith plays the drunk sister.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**. Return of Peter Hall's enjoyable production, brimful of deceptions. Starring Martin Shaw and Simon Ward, and Kate O'Mara as the svelte troublemaker
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thur 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

■ **THE INVENTION OF LOVE**: Tom Stoppard's new play with John Wood as the elderly A. E. Housman, careful to keep his love life private, unlike Oscar Wilde, who also appears. Paul Rhys plays the young Housman and Michael Bryant is Charon ferrying the dead across the Styx. Richard Eyre directs
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm. In rep Ⓢ

☐ **KAT AND THE KINGS**: Exuberant *musical set in Cape Town as rock'n'roll* bursts over South Africa. A great evening out.
Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Nov 5), 2pm and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **A LETTER OF RESIGNATION**. Edward Fox and Clare Higgins play Harold Macmillan and Lady Dorothy in *Hugh Whitemore's play about the effects of the Profumo scandal*
Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

☐ **SHE KNOWS YOU KNOW!**: Jean Fergusson writes and stars in this life story of the celebrated comic Hylda Baker, by all accounts a funny but *difficult woman*
Vaudeville Theatre, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Until December 7.

☐ **STEPPING OUT**: Musical version of Richard Harris's hit play (music and lyrics by Denis King and Mary Stewart David). Julia McKenzie directs Liz Robertson and her hopeful hoofers
Albery, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats *Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.*

☐ **TALES MY LOVER TOLD ME**. New musical comedy written and directed by Chris Burgess, music by Sarah Travis, *about three women in their early middle* years struggling to stay friends
King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) Tue-Sat, 8pm; mat Sun, 3pm.

◪ **WAITING FOR GODOT**: Peter Hall, who directed the British premiere in 1955, directs Alan Howard and Ben Kingsley in a revival of Beckett
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-*928 7616) Tonight, 7.30pm. In rep*

☐ **WOYZECK**: Sarah Kane's gripping production of Büchner's tragedy of a common man. Riveting performances *by Michael Shannon and Kate Ashfield.*
Gate Theatre, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until November 22.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) .. ◪ **Cats**. New London (0171-405 0072) ☐ **Grease**. Cambridge (0171-494 5060) ... ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) .. ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) .. ☐ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) .. ☐ **The Mousetrap**. St Martin's (0171-836 1443) .. ☐ **Oliver!** Palladium (0171-494 5020) .. ☐ **Smokey Joe's Cafe**. Prince of Wales (0171-839 5987) .. ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (15): Amusingly cheeky horror comic, with Tom Everett Scott as an American student who falls for the charms of Julie Delpy's werewolf. Director, Anthony Waller
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) ***Virgin Trocadero*** Ⓢ *(0171-970 6015)* **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

FOOLS RUSH IN (12): Strait-laced guy can't cope with marriage to a fiery *Mexican-American. Tiresome romantic* comedy with Matthew Perry and Salma Hayek. Director, Andy Tennant.
Virgin Trocadero Ⓢ (0181-970 6015)

L.A. CONFIDENTIAL *(18): Smashing* drama about corruption in LA in the early 1950s, with Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe, Kim Basinger, Guy Pearce and Danny DeVito. Director, Curtis Hanson.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

SMALLTIME (18): Exuberant comic tale of Nottingham low-lifes, from a promising new talent, Shane Meadows.
ICA Ⓢ (0171-930 3647)

SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW *(15): Danish scientist of Greenlandic* descent sniffs out a murder mystery. Mishandled treatment of interesting material. With Julia Ormond, Gabriel Byrne, Richard Harris. Director, Bille August
ABC Shaftesbury Av (0171-836 6279)

CURRENT

◆ THE FULL MONTY (15): Unemployed steelworkers strip for cash. Bouncy British comedy, with Robert Carlyle, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Addy.
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (0181-315 4215) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

◆ A LIFE LESS ORDINARY (15). Janitor and American heiress finally fall in love. Odd mix of comedy, fantasy and romance from the Trainspotting team. Director, Danny Boyle
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Gate** Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) ***Trocadero*** Ⓢ *(0171-434 0031)* **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

MA VIE EN ROSE (12): Exuberant, generous and stylish French comedy about a seven year-old boy's determination to be a girl.
ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030)

◆ THE PEACEMAKER (15): George Clooney and Nicole Kidman search Eastern Europe for stolen nuclear warheads. Muddled action blockbuster
ABCs: Baker St (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Ct Rd** (0171-636 6148) **Empire** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Ctg** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

WILDE (15): Stephen Fry as Oscar Wilde: fine and touching, though the film is more timid than you might expect
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

The incredible journey

DONALD COOPER

Religious fervour: Pamela Helen Stephen (Madam Bubble), Gerald Finley (Pilgrim), Rebecca Evans (Madam Wanton)

Pilgrim's Progress
Barbican Hall

If the word is not too strong, Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) was obsessed with *The Pilgrim's Progress* all his life. He first wrote incidental music for a dramatisation in 1906; the "work-in-progress" *Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains* followed in 1922; more music for a BBC *radio dramatisation* came in 1942. When the complete opera was performed at Covent Garden in 1951 it was on the whole scurvily received, which must have wounded the composer.

Nearly 50 years on, you can see why. One result of VW's lifelong concern was that the score could have been composed at almost any time this century, if not before. With its harmonies seldom straying beyond the world of *Hymns A&M*, its unashamed, wholesome religiosity and warm, unquestioning bed of choral and orchestral triumphalism, it must have sounded antediluvian to ears growing accustomed to Britten (*Billy Budd* was premiered the same year), let alone to whatever was going on in Darmstadt. One can well imagine modernists sniggering behind their hands at this "cowpat" music.

But with the passing of time such out-of-synch disparity matters less. The sheer fervour of the writing and its profoundly held conviction sweep all before it, certainly through the short first two acts. Its problems as an opera — *and Ernest Newman thought it* belonged in a cathedral rather than an opera house — stem from a certain lack of dramatic conflict. Pilgrim doesn't have to do a lot off his own bat: when he is in trouble, there is always someone to see him through, be it an encouraging Watchful or the consoling Branch-Bearer and Cup-Bearer; and there's a Key of Promise to get him out of jail. Even threats of death carry little weight, since his whole journey is to the hereafter.

Such quibbles carried equally little weight during Monday's semi-staged performance by the Royal Opera, which was simply superb. Richard Hickox conducted with as much passion and devotion as if this were some divine conflation of *Parsifal* and the Verdi Requiem, and the orchestral sound alone drew you unprotesting into sharing VW's certainties. Joseph Ward's staging — a matter of platforms (Michael Holt) and light (John B. Read) — gave a clear impression of what drama there is, probably clearer than in any conventional production.

Gerald Finley's performance of the title role was beyond all praise, sung with beautifully firm tone and acted without a hint of embarrassment. There were equally vivid performances from Gidon Saks (Apollyon, Hate-Good et al), and from Anne-Marie Owens and Richard Coxon as the By-Ends in the quirkily comic scene much criticised at the time, but a very necessary leavening after the Delectable Shepherds (the weakest part of the score, oddly enough). Jeremy White (Evangelist), Roderick Williams (Watchful) and Gwynne Howell (Bunyan) performed their pious duties with tact, and the whole company went for Vanity Fair hammer and tongs. VW won, hands down.

RODNEY MILNES

Making merrier

The Merry Widow
Shaftesbury

After its decidedly downbeat opening but with an alternate cast now firmly in place, the Royal Opera's *Merry Widow* has begun to pick up a little. Alas, not so the audience: at a performance late last week when one might at least have expected Lesley Garrett's Valencienne to have been packing them in, there were rows of empty seats in what felt like a ghost town but was in fact the Shaftesbury Theatre.

Putting aside, if possible, the *unbelievably drab production*, there is now a show to be enjoyed here. Of course, Lehár's masterpiece really needs a bit of glitz, and in a West End run of 30 performances intended to draw people in, the set is the wrong place to be making economies. But the production has settled down musically, with Dietfried Bernet now conducting with greater flexibility and real Viennese feeling, and most of the cast now getting Jeremy Sams's sly translation across with relish and clarity.

Lyuba Kazarnovskaya is strong casting in the title role. Her soprano has a slight edge and top notes are not her speciality, but she sings a seductive *Vilja* and you can believe in her as the spirited farmer's daughter made good. There is erotic charge in her relationship with Dale Duesing's Danilo, who makes up for a rather dry baritone *with his comic timing, turning* in a real performance.

Garrett's Valencienne (her Royal Opera stage debut) has voice and personality; though she occasionally spoils things by overacting, she relishes every *double entendre* and makes a cheeky grisette. Donald Maxwell is excellent as the buffoonish Baron Zeta, and Vicente Ombuena's awkward Camille apart, this cast provides a good evening's entertainment.

JOHN ALLISON

Sounds of the South

RECITAL

Pacific Voices
Wigmore Hall

IF, AS Barry Humphries observed, you can always pick out classical music because it *"doesn't have words and goes* on for a considerable length of time", he would have been hard put to classify this delightful evening.

Though there were pieces which drew their inspiration from the music of far-flung Pacific cultures, the sound worlds never really went native. Canadian composer David Duke's *... Though Now We Sleep ...* combines eloquent utterances from the solo cello improvising on Kwakiutl song fragments, with recordings of the chanting and drums. The cellist Steven Isserlis breathed life into the whispering microtonal harmonics and multi-stopped pizzicati with the lightest touch. But the weird nasal voices remained apart, and Duke's gestures could only reach towards a Kodaly-like exoticism.

The critic and composer James Helme Sutcliffe was born in China and studied in Australia, New York, Zurich, Bayreuth and Cologne, but his *Avatar* (1994) for cello and piano sounds as if he had never left the Paris of Les Six. He spins a thread of easy modal fluency, beautifully executed here by Isserlis and the pianist Susan Tomes, who also gave a graceful reading of David Fanshawe's *The Awakening*. Again, the raw panpipes and drums of the Solomon Islanders seemed to bear little relation to Fanshawe's dreamy, diatonic response.

Carl Vine's inventive *Inner World* for solo cello and tape had a true "Pacific" taste, however, with its mixture of high-tech, West Coast rhythmic drive and outlandish harmonic world, whose vocabulary derives from the sounds of the cello itself, computer-altered and interwoven with the playing of another cellist, David Pereira.

Barry Humphries joined in for Grant Belgarian's *Of Fables, Foibles and Fancies*, written for Gregor Piatigorsky, whom he appointed while music dean of the University of Southern California. Isserlis caught the quirky humour of these tall tales with aplomb.

Then came Ross Edwards and Barry Humphries's *Cries of Australia*, commissioned for the occasion. It was in the guise of the "late" Sandy Stone that Humphries arrived for this disingenuous monologue on his wife Beryl and her table mats. Isserlis was cast as the refugee next door, driving poor Beryl to distraction with his cello practice (an irony not lost on a Wigmore audience). The compromise — Beryl's *Chopsticks* miraculously turned into a perfectly reasonable accompaniment to the famous melody of Schubert's E flat Piano Trio — was quite a *coup de grâce*.

HELEN WALLACE

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Most original director of the century?

As London experiences another of Robert Wilson's forays into the challenging – and confusing – **Andy Lavender** talks to him

Contemplating Robert Wilson requires a range of facial movements. First, the eyes should widen at the evidence of this polymath's activities. Wilson has been making influential artworks — theatre and opera stagings, installations, sculptures, furniture and paintings — since the late 1960s. He is best known for his visually striking stage productions, which he designs, lights and directs himself. According to John Rockwell, the director of New York's Lincoln Centre Festival, he is *"the most original director of* this century". This is faint praise when set against the enthusiasm of a number of European arts figures, who see Wilson as the unique exponent of spectacular escapism for the intelligentsia.

Secondly, the chin drops in awe at the list of collaborators with whom Wilson has worked. Philip Glass, David Byrne, Heiner Müller, Lou Reed, Jessye Norman, William Burroughs, Tom Waits, Laurie Anderson... you could hardly hope to assemble a more cultish collection.

Then comes the respectful pursing of the lips at the detail which Wilson lavishes on his shows. His recent one-man version of *Hamlet*, for instance, contained more than 300 lighting cues. "I've worked on shows with Bob where he's had a follow-spot on a performer's *finger*," says one of his stage managers.

Compare this with the scale of *KA MOUNTAIN*, an event staged on a mountain in Iran in 1972 that lasted for seven days and featured 500 actors. This suggests the spirit of Wilson's work: magnificent folly combined with the rigorous attentions of the purist.

Finally, two raised eyebrows. One signals the reserve with which some critics approach Wilson's work, finding its formalism too remote, trivial or empty (in some instances, all three). The other indicates the rather eccentric behaviour of the man himself, who conforms to a range of stereotypes concerning the pressurised artist-genius. There is the instance when the novelist Edmund White flew from Paris to New York to interview Wilson in his apartment, only to be given a guided tour and not allowed to ask questions of his own. Or the story about Wilson walking out of a hairdresser's salon two hours into a hair coloration, only to return the next day demanding that the job be finished.

So it was no small satisfaction to discover myself, after several false starts, in conversation with Wilson about his production of *La Maladie de la Mort*, which opens in London tonight as part of the French Theatre Season. The show is a version of Marguerite Duras's novel about a man who hires a woman, perhaps in a last attempt at feeling. In Wilson's hands Duras's story has become a chamber piece set in an abstract room which opens on to some sort of seascape. As the show progresses, the "outside" becomes more evident, until in one scene the space is reversed and the characters are in the open — a characteristic visual turn.

> ‘Wilson's methods involve the most open mind *and the most* steely grip’

Wilson's methods of making theatre involve a strange marriage between the kind of free-association favoured by the surrealists and a fierce formalist discipline. On the one hand the most open mind, on the other the most steely grip. What really makes things different is that Wilson's theatrical solutions often have little to do with the actual work he is staging.

"I start by thinking about a structure," he says. "I usually find for myself some kind of diagram or outline. With *La Maladie* I thought of the number seven, as an even number which had three points and another three points, around a central point. So the piece had a centre. This is not necessarily in the text. It's something I imposed along the way. And it's not necessary that the audience knows what that something is about. I thought of the number seven because Marguerite once told me that the piece takes place over the course of a week, so it's seven days."

A mere step from this, you can imagine, to a show in seven sections revolving around a scene where the balance shifts from one side of the stage to the other. If it all sounds dauntingly schematic, consider the response of the critic Marc Robinson, who attended the premiere in Berlin five years ago. The production, he suggested, is "attentive to matters of the heart and spirit, with an intensity that makes for emotionally rich performance".

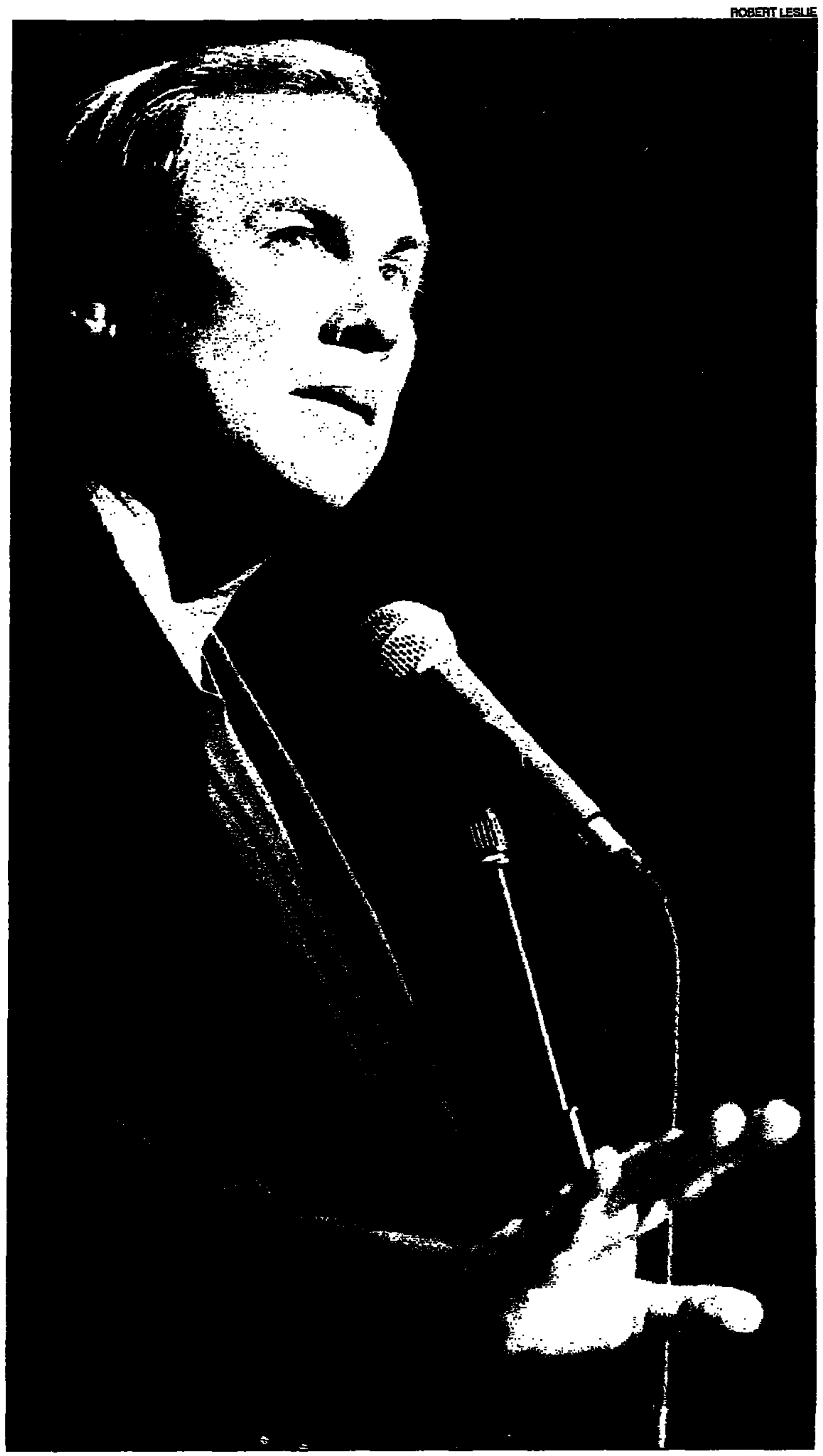
The show has been recast since then. Now it features the celebrated French actor Michel Piccoli and the dancer Lucinda Childs, a longstanding Wilson collaborator. Wilson says the piece has changed as a result, and enthuses about the *obvious differences between his two* performers as if this somehow enhances Duras's themes of dependence and loneliness.

"Michel Piccoli by nature is very simple in his appearance," Wilson says. "His strength is in his restraint. He's a very modest man. Even though what he's doing on stage is what you'd call 'acting', it's very natural. Lucinda, on the other hand, is very artificial. Her movements are not the kind of movements that you would see on the street. They're made for the stage."

Wilson's work itself delights in its own artifice, so it is no surprise to find him teaming up with Duras. "Marguerite's works are very formal," says Wilson, "but in a formal theatre, believe it or not, if it's done well there's very deep emotion. It's not like Broadway."

● La Maladie de la Mort *is at Sadler's Wells at the Peacock Theatre (0171-314 8800) until Saturday, sponsored by Global Asset Management*

ROBERT LESLIE


There's only one Robert Wilson, arts polymath and idol of some of theatre's most influential figures

Death rows

Absolution
BAC, SW11

THREE high-school boys in Vancouver, wildly drunk, rape a nameless girl. One of them goes overboard and uses a screwdriver. They wake up with three hangovers, one corpse, and no idea which of them killed her.

Robert William Sherwood's gripping play starts 15 years after the students have buried the truth and gone their separate ways. One of the trio, Peter, is seeking absolution. *He has discovered God, told* his Saskatchewan girlfriend the story, and has hitched back to Vancouver to get Gordon and David to repent. It is here that Sherwood's play moves beyond its sensational material to a series of delicately crafted encounters that have the sort of mythic quality of a big screen showdown.

With the evidence rotted away, Peter's only lever is the truth. But his memory of the truth is starkly different to that of Gordon and David. Time has also played tricks with their memory of each other. David, the high-school achiever, has sunk into an anonymous job as a proof-reader, while Gordon has grown into *an aggressive, womanising* business tycoon.

James Merrells manages to make the caricaturable excesses of Gordon into his strengths, exploding with palpable venom at Peter's insistence on some collective moral responsibility. James Holmes puts in a fantastically convincing performance as the long-haired Peter, whose every night is haunted by the horror of the victim's face and whose salvation is painfully unravelled by David's dry logic. "The word was never made flesh," says Timothy Deenihan's inscrutable David. "Not only are you stupid enough to believe it, you're stupid enough to believe it in translation."

What Sherwood makes flesh is that truth with no evidence is only words. Not since Brad Fraser's *Unidentified Human Remains and The True Nature of Love* has a Canadian play so graphically captured that edgy dislocation between human waste and *meaning*.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

CONCERTS: Orchestral strength and solo inspiration from North America

A little goes a very long way

ISO/Leppard
Festival Hall

Whitman-like, the orchestras of the United States sing America with a great tongue. Many have paraded through London this year, each one a great multinational but with an individual voice that remains vivid — and none more so than the quietly civilised and civilising Indianapolis Symphony, which visited London as the grand finale to its third European tour.

At just 87 strong, the ISO can function as both chamber ensemble and full-grown symphony orchestra. Its Festival Hall programme of Stravinsky, Mozart and Tchaikovsky epitomised the classically grounded style of the supple language, with its many European inflections, that it has learnt to speak so eloquently in the past decade under the artistic directorship of Raymond Leppard.

The orchestra's first and last notes drew attention to the elegant string textures spun by a band with a fine quartet of principals at its heart. The encore — the orchestral version of the slow movement of Tchaikovsky's First String Quartet — was a cunning choice. It signed and sealed the quality of the ensemble playing heard at the very start, in the opening bars of Stravinsky's Divertimento from *The Fairy's Kiss*.

This was the work in which Stravinsky paid warm, if oblique, homage to Tchaikovsky. His skill, and that of Leppard and the ISO in recreation, was to assimilate Tchaikovsky's themes in such a way that the ear is left with a sense of something fugitive, an elusive remembrance of things past woven inextricably into a new, living present.

This tugging of past and present is very much at the heart of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. Its tension pulses through the slow movement's song, and the cellos' response to the oboe's bittersweet *canzona* was transformed cogently by Leppard into a continuing momentum of new affirmation.

After a hard-working Scherzo, taken at a tempo in which the massed *pizzicato* could really be *voiced*, the finale, with its sure pacing and close-focus articulation, was an exultant vindication of the entire performance's powerful concentration and clarity.

The Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky framed Stephen Kovacevich's performance of Mozart's C minor Piano Concerto, K491. This was the cue for the ISO's woodwind to come into its own. In a *beautifully enunciated* if somewhat austere performance, the sharply individual voices provided character and diversion just where they were needed.

HILARY FINCH

Spirit and Polish

BBC SO/Skrowaczewski
Festival Hall

MUSIC may be a universal language, but with two infrequently played Polish works featured in Monday's BBC Symphony Orchestra concert alongside Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, it made good sense to have a Polish conductor on the podium. Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, an old pro in the best sense, undoubtedly brought a feeling of authenticity to the proceedings.

Even so, it was the Canadian Chantal Juillet's performance in Szymanowski's *Violin Concerto No 2* that proved most memorable. With smallish but sweet tone, she turned the opening into an outpouring of endless melody, and under her fingers the music took flight. Just occasionally, in moments where the conductor seemed reluctant to let it flow, the orchestra sounded earthbound, but in the second, folk-inspired section of this unbroken score the notes positively danced.

The conductor brought a similar understanding to Penderecki's bleak Sinfonietta for Strings. If anything was lacking here it was the fault of the music itself, since although the work is concise and well crafted, it inhabits a single emotional plain that suggests Shostakovich without that composer's characteristic depth.

The orchestra sounded at its best in the *Pathétique*, capturing the autumnal glow of the music. The wind solos had real warmth. Only the *scherzo-march* was a little ragged, but then there was compensation in its exciting swagger. Skrowaczewski shaped a distinctive performance, particularly in an unsettling first movement marked by fluid tempos and volatile climaxes. The waltz-like *Allegro con grazia* had a heavier tread than usual, good preparation for the unbearable intensity of the finale. As always in any worthwhile performance of this ambiguous work, one was left wondering whether Tchaikovsky really did intend it as his own Requiem.

JOHN ALLISON

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

ANDREW CHETTY

Age: 28.

Profession: Artistic director.

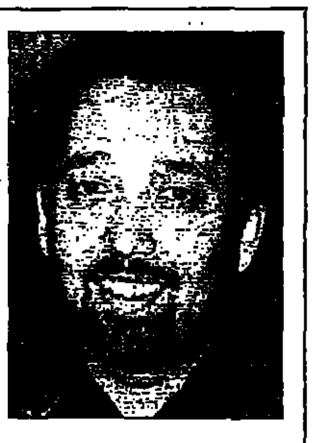
Here and NOW: He runs NOW *ninety* 7, Nottingham's month-long festival of music, new technology, dance, performance and installation. It continues until November 16.

Talking about his generation: "I've radically repackaged NOW to focus on what's most exciting for younger artists and audiences, people aged 18 to 35. The performance groups we feature, like Blast Theory and Reckless, fit my notion of doing art for the sake of doing it, not for the money."

Theatre was his first love: He grew up in Whickham, near Gateshead. His parents introduced him to drama at the Newcastle Playhouse when he was about 13. "Right from the first play I saw, *The Merchant of Venice*, I was really captured."

Design for a living: After a degree in theatre design at Nottingham Polytechnic, he produced sets and costumes for, among others, the Birmingham-based African People's Theatre and the London *Contemporary* Dance Theatre.

Why did he change direction? "Ruth McKenzie, who was then executive director of the Nottingham Playhouse, said 'Andrew, you're not a very good designer', and suggested I become a trainee producer. I haven't regretted it."



Best moment? A Saturday during NOW ninety 5. "We had about 2,500 people, from small kids to pensioners, queueing up to watch Blast Theory perform a piece of experimental theatre in a 30ft-square black box. It was great to see such a wide cross-section of people transfixed by something they'd never have gone to see otherwise."

DANIEL ROSENTHAL

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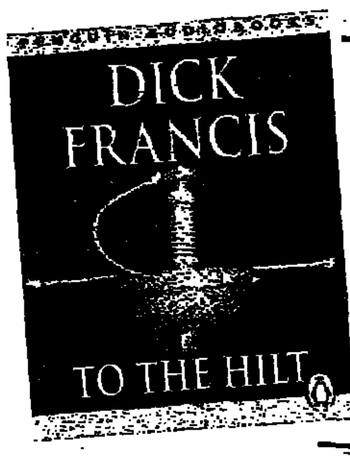

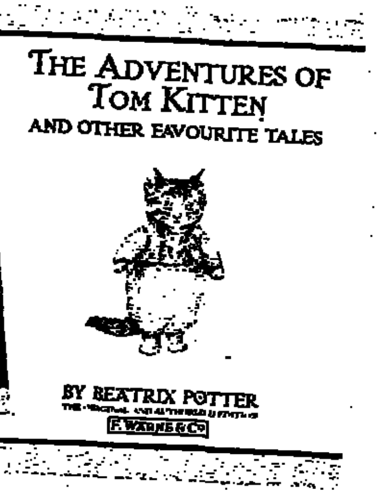

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CHANGING TIMES

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Queen's Bench Division Law Report November 5 1997

Councils can charge for care

Regina v Powys County Council, Ex parte Hambidge: Secretary of State for Health, Intervener

Before Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment October 7]

A local authority was empowered to charge the recipient of care for services provided under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act 1970.

Mr Justice Popplewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing the application of Jenny Hambidge for judicial review of the decision of Powys County Council to charge her for certain services provided under section 2 of the 1970 Act.

Section 17 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983 provides: "(1) ... an authority providing a service to which this section applies may recover such charge (if any) for it as they consider reasonable.

"(2) This section applies to services provided under the following enactments — section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948. . ."

Section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 provides: "(1) A local authority may ... make arrangements for promoting the welfare of persons to whom this section applies, that is to say persons aged eighteen or over who are blind, deaf or dumb, or who suffer from mental disorder ... and other persons aged eighteen or over who are substantially and permanently handicapped. . ."

Section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act 1970 provides: "(1) Where a local authority having functions under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 are satisfied ... that it is necessary in order to meet the needs of that person, for that authority to make arrangements for all or any of the following matters [provisions for assistance with home help, outings, holidays, adapted facilities, etc] then ... it shall be the duty of that authority to make those arrangements in exercise of their functions under the said section 29."

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Stephen Cragg for the applicant; Mr Robin Barratt, QC and Mr Clive Lewis for the county council; Mr Steven Kovats for the Secretary of State for Health.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that was trite law that if a charge was to be made by a public body there had to be clear statutory wording to that effect.

It was the contention of the local authority and the secretary of state that the county council was empowered by section 17 of the 1983 Act to charge for the services provided.

Essentially their case was that while section 17 did not refer expressly to section 2 of the 1970 Act the services described in section 2 were provided under section 29 of the 1948 Act and were therefore covered by section 17(2).

His Lordship agreed that section 17 entitled the local authority to charge for services provided under section 29. When providing welfare services under section 2 of the 1970 Act the local authority was exercising its functions under section 29.

It was not providing services under section 2; it was making arrangements under the 1948 Act for the provision of the services. The local authority was entitled to charge.

Solicitors: Thorpes, Hereford; Mr Roger Eagle, Llandrindod Wells; Solicitor, Department of Health.

Sueing over unpaid council tax

Regina v Hackney London Borough Council, Ex parte Adebiri

Regina v Merton LBC, Ex parte Inparaja

Regina v Same, Ex parte Parupathpilli

Regina v Ealing LBC, Ex parte Jehan

Before Mr Justice Kay

[Judgment July 31]

A local authority which brought proceedings to enforce the payment of council tax by asylum seekers who had no means of paying was entitled to do so, and was not acting unreasonably.

Mr Justice Kay so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing applications by four asylum seekers for judicial review of the decisions of the respondent local authorities to bring proceedings against each of them for non-payment of council tax by seeking liability orders.

Mr Stephen Knafler for the applicants; Miss Mary Cook for Merton; Mr Ranjit Bhose for Ealing and Hackney.

MR JUSTICE KAY said that all the applicants were in the United Kingdom pending their appeals against refusal of asylum and were not entitled to income support or council tax benefit.

The Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations (SI 1992 No 613) gave the local authority a discretion whether to proceed at each stage of the enforcement process and the authorities had begun that process by seeking liability orders.

Mr Knafler submitted that the local authorities had acted ultra vires section 11(2) of the Asylum and *Immigration* Act 1996 and regulations made thereunder, which entitled a person granted asylum on appeal to council tax benefit backdated to the date of notice of appeal, and which, he contended, must envisage that no enforcement action be taken meanwhile. The proceedings were also said to be ultra vires the 1992 regulations because they had not been brought against individuals within the contemplation of the regulations: those who had the means to pay.

His Lordship rejected those submissions. If Parliament had intended that there be no enforcement against asylum seekers in those circumstances, it could have included such a provision in the Act, which could not be read into it by implication.

Nor could it be said that it was unreasonable to seek a liability order in the circumstances. Even though the applicants might have been unable to pay, the order enabled the precise liability to be established at an early stage.

Further, it would not be unreasonable for a local authority to continue the enforcement process and seek distress or a committal order against the applicants. Considerations such as the desirability of a uniform approach to council tax payers could reasonably outweigh the arguments pitted against enforcement.

Solicitors: Ms Angela Jackson, Hackney; Clore & Co and Raja & Co; Ms Jane Ramsey, Merton; Mr Richard Polson, Ealing and Mr Christopher R. Hinde, Hackney.

Power to search mental patients

Regina v Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority and Another, Ex parte S and Others

Before Mr Justice Potts

[Judgment October 15]

All hospitals admitting patients under the Mental Health Act 1983 had the power to search those patients without consent.

Whether a particular hospital's search policy was lawful was a question of *Wednesbury* reasonableness ([1948] 1 KB 223).

Mr Justice Potts so held in the Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment when dismissing the applications of five applicants detained under the 1983 Act for judicial review of the policy of Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority, implemented on July 1, 1997 to conduct random and routine searches on patients detained under the Act.

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Paul Bowen for the applicants; Mr Edward Fitzgerald, QC and Mr Oliver Thorold for the hospital authority; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC and Mr Pushpinder Saini for the Secretary of State for Health.

MR JUSTICE POTTS said that the applicants sought judicial review of the policy of Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority to conduct random and routine searches, without consent, on patients detained under the 1983 Act.

All parties agreed that such patients retained all civil rights which were not taken away expressly or by implication: see *Raymond v Honey* ([1983] 1 AC 1).

His Lordship rejected the submission that section 137(2) of the Act expressly conferred on the hospital authority the powers of a constable, including powers of search.

Section 137(2) referred to powers to detain a person outside hospital and was not apt to cover the regime in a hospital once a patient had been conveyed there.

Whether an implied power existed depended upon whether there was a self-evident or pressing need for such a power: *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Leech* ([1994] QB 198).

His Lordship found that the power to detain for medical treatment conferred by the Act included a power to exercise control and discipline (*R v Bracknell Justices, Ex parte Griffiths* ([1976] AC 314, 335)) which included a duty to maintain a safe and therapeutic environment.

A general power to search patients was necessarily implied as a part of that duty. A power to search in order to prevent escape was also implicit in the power to detain.

All hospitals admitting patients under the Act had the general power to search patients, but whether a policy of random and routine search was *Wednesbury* reasonable depended on the circumstances of the hospital.

Although the policy was reasonable for Broadmoor, a special hospital, it would not necessarily be reasonable for other institutions containing less dangerous patients.

Solicitors: Scott-Moncrieff Harbour & Sinclair; Reid Minty & Co; Solicitor, Department of Health.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The Russian team which lost in the semi-final of the world junior teams featured one of the strongest pairs ever to play in a junior event. Petrounine and Khiouppenen are first and sixth in their country's open national ranking list: they were West and East respectively on the hand below.

Dealer West Game all IMPs

♠K 9 6
♥9 4
♦A Q 9 3 2
♣J 10 2

♠10 8 2
♥Q 10 8 7 2
♦K 7 5
♣6 3

♠4 3
♥A 5 3
♦J 10 4
♣K Q 9 7 4

♠A Q J 7 5
♥K J 6
♦8 6
♣A 8 5

S	W	N	E
—	Pass	Pass	2C
2S	Pass	3C	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: six of clubs

Khiouppenen's Two Club opening showed a limited hand with long clubs. After that it was always going to be difficult for North-South to reach Three No-Trumps from the North seat, the best game on their cards.

Petrounine led the six of clubs, which went to the ten and queen. Declarer should play to ruff a heart, but in practice he decided to draw three rounds of trumps because of the impending club ruff. When he then led the eight of diamonds from hand, intending to run it, Petrounine rose with the king. Now declarer was helpless: he ducked the trick hoping the clubs were initially 6-1, but West could lead a club through dummy's J x, and East got two club tricks and the ace of hearts for one down.

If Petrounine had not risen with the king of diamonds, the 3-3 split in the suit would have seen declarer home. East wins the diamond and returns a low heart. As declarer needs West to have the king of diamonds he will play the king of hearts — East is likely to have the ace for his opening bid. And the king is the only winning play if the clubs are 5-2; if West has the ace declarer has no chance.

☐ The Times Book of Bridge 1, a compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B.T. Batsford, on 01376 321276, price £6.99 (plus £1 p&p).

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

OKIE
a. A kind of hornbill
b. Betel nut
c. A migrant worker

PONGAL
a. A tart
b. New Year feast
c. Goat biltong

SALONFAHIG
a. Respectable
b. Long-striding
c. A dining-car

PENGO
a. A penguin chick
b. A memory game
c. A Hungarian coin

Answers on page 50

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov challenge

On Saturday world champion Garry Kasparov will play a simultaneous match against 100 players in aid of the Fragile X Society, who help those suffering from Fragile X Syndrome, a genetically inherited condition which is the most common cause of learning disability. The display will be at the Cobden Club in London and those interested in playing should contact Jasmin Pelham on 0171 935 3414.

Russian wins

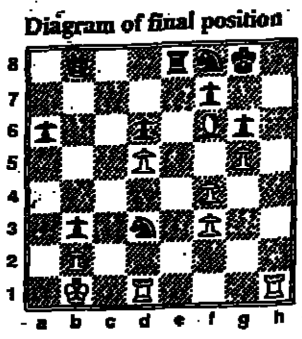
Two further examples of play from Russia's fine win in the recently concluded world team championship.

White: Alexander Khalifman
Black: Oleg Romanishin
World team championship, Lucerne 1997

Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nf3	b6
4	Nc3	Bb7
5	a3	g6
6	Qc2	Bxf3
7	exf3	Bg7
8	Bg5	c5
9	d5	h6
10	Be3	exd5
11	cxd5	0-0
12	g4	d6
13	h4	Nbd7
14	g5	hxg5
15	hxg5	Nh7
16	f4	Re8
17	Bb5	Nhf8
18	0-0-0	a6
19	Bc6	b5
20	Bxa8	Qxa8
21	Ne4	b4
22	axb4	Qb8
23	f3	cxb4
24	Kb1	b3
25	Qd3	Nc5
26	Bd4	Nxd3
27	Nf6+	Bxf6
28	Bxf6	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



White: Peter Svidler
Black: Amador Rodriguez
World team championship, Lucerne 1997

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	e6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	Bb4
6	e5	Nd5
7	Bd2	Nxc3
8	bxc3	Be7
9	Qg4	0-0
10	Bh6	g6
11	Bxf8	Bxf8
12	Qg3	Qa5
13	f4	d6
14	exd6	Bxd6
15	Rd1	e5
16	Nb5	exf4
17	Qg5	Bf8
18	Bc4	Qb6
19	Qxf4	Be6
20	Nc7	Bxc4
21	Qxc4	Qe3+
22	Kf1	Bc5
23	Rd8+	Kg7
24	Ne8+	Kf8
25	Nd6+	

Black resigns

Dutch championship

In the play-offs for the championship of Holland the many-times champion grandmaster Jan Timman lost to the former Yugoslav grandmaster Predreg Nikloic 2½-1½.

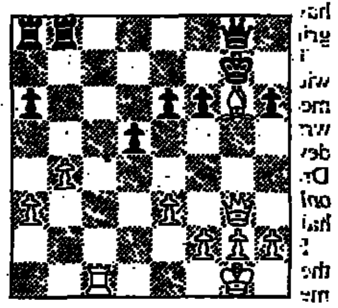
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. From the game Lytschak — Johansen, Tallinn 1997.

White has a strong attack, possibilities including a discovered check by the bishop and the rook invasion on c7. How did he combine these in a display of tactical fireworks?

Solution on page 50



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BARBICAN, EC2. 1 bed, 6th floor needs modernising, £135,000. Also small 1 bed £98,500. Daniel Watney 0171 253 4414

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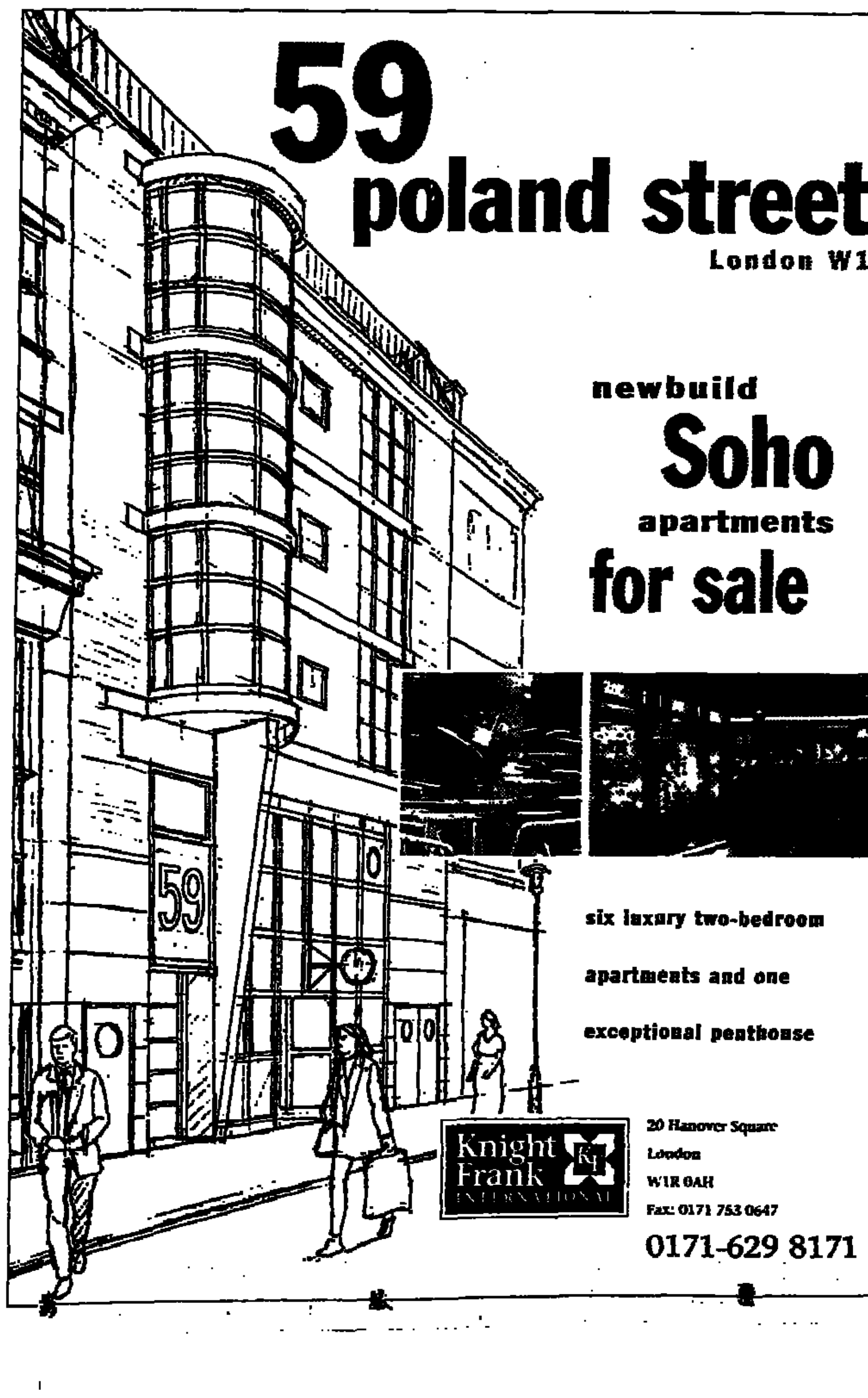

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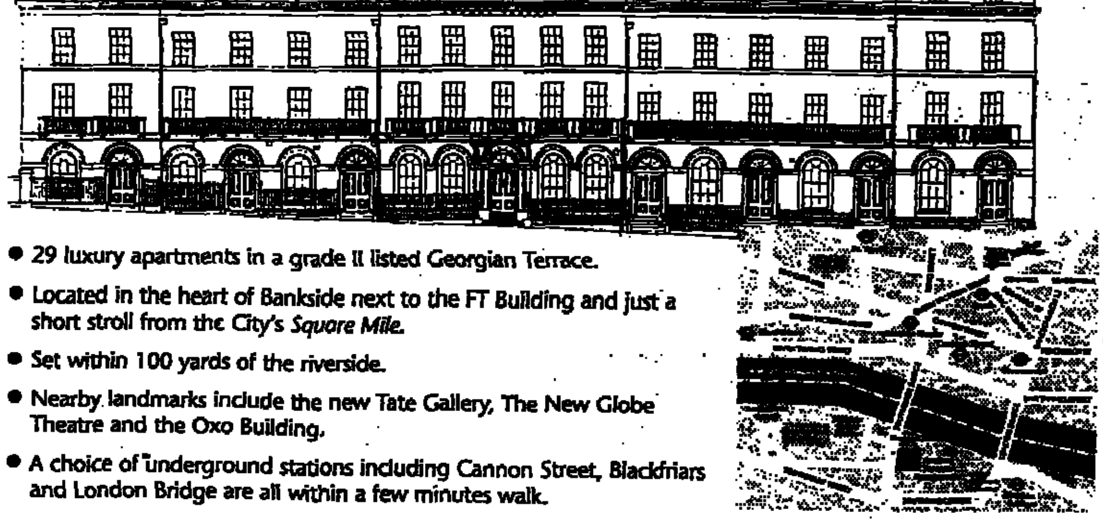

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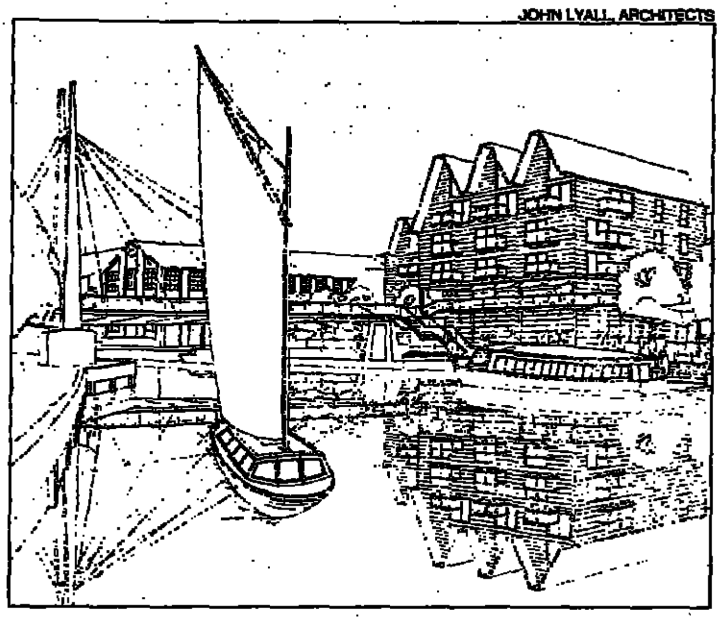
Injecting new life into England's oldest street

Sue Herdman reports on plans to revive a semi-derelict street in an historic city

BRYN COLTON


Norwich's Dragon Hall in King Street and planning drawings for the redevelopment of the semi-derelict St Anne's Wharf

JOHN LYALL, ARCHITECTS

A street said to be England's oldest is soon to be given a 20th-century facelift. King Street in Norwich, according to Mike Loveday, Norwich council's head of planning, took shape before the 10th century. Now plans have been submitted that aim to use the street's semi-derelict St Anne's Wharf as a catalyst that will help to regenerate the city centre. The scheme is one of a wave of developments that should help to restore urban vibrancy to Britain.

A spokeswoman from the Urban Villages Forum, which works to create mixed youth urban developments, says: "Provide the right balance of facilities and homes, and people will move into once-blighted inner city areas."

In Manchester stunning but derelict Georgian and Victorian cotton mills are being transformed into urban villages in former no-go ghettos such as Hulme and Ancoats. A decade ago the population of Manchester city centre was just 350. Today it is 4,000 and is expected to grow to at least 10,000 in the next five years.

Similar projects are under way in Birmingham's historic jewellery quarter, in the heart of Glasgow's Gorbals, in Sheffield's Manor and Castle housing estates and in London's King's Cross, where the seven conservation areas, Regent's Canal and significant green spaces have up to now been largely left in grimy neglect.

The King Street plans in Norwich include the reinstatement of medieval street patterns and the wrapping of a glossy modernist development around the ancient Dragon Hall, believed to be the only medieval merchant trading hall left in Europe.

By the millennium there will be the ubiquitously trendy loft apartments for sale here, part of a lively Docklands-type setting.

The atmosphere in King Street today is both one of gentle dereliction and artisan elegance: the street itself is a curious tapestry of architectural gems seriously blighted by unattractive 1970s warehouses.

The ancient deconsecrated churches of St Peter Parmentergate (parmenters were the leather workers who were once here) and St Etheldreda are still beautiful but crumbling. Their porches house beer-soaked sleeping bags belonging to the homeless, their gates provide a leaning post to wan-faced young women plying the oldest trade in the world.

But it was not always like this. In the 12th century the street housed the wealthy Jewish quarter and was packed with fine timber-framed houses and merchant premises, friaries and taverns. It was home to the wealthy and well-connected, including Anne Boleyn's grandfather, William, and the Dukes of Norfolk.

In the 19th century light industry arrived with tanneries, maltings, shoe factories and breweries. When those industries declined, some as recently as in the last decade, Norwich seemed to turn its back on the area, leaving the remaining exquisite medieval houses to the pimps and their girls.

The architect at work on the project is John Lyall. At the moment it is hard to say how well his plans are going to work. The stark architect's drawings demand a vivid imagination. He proposes concrete-framed buildings which will frame a tree-lined piazza with the already established Waterfront Club (a music and comedy venue) at one end and at the other a landscaped square.

The buildings will be clad with timber boarding, glass, brick and flint and will house airy three-storey flats with steep pitch roofs, lots of light and balconies overlooking the river.

Underneath the flats will be bars and restaurants with a waterfront promenade which will run past shops, galleries, studios and workshops.

But how will these look nestled beside and behind the ancient Music House (the oldest dwelling in the city) and the elegant Howard House (the past city home to the Dukes of Norfolk)?

Mr Lyall is sure his modernist approach will work. "These designs will fit in with the local vernacular and bring a refreshing spirit of modernism," he says. "The process is like dentistry — we'll take out the rotten parts, such as the industrial sheds and brewery buildings, and assess the quality of what's left."

Ken Powell, director of the 20th Century Society, believes in Mr Lyall's approach. "He has a reputation for thoroughly modern urban repair and restoration," he says, "which has been very successful in projects such as the restoration of the Grade I Corn Exchange and its surrounds in Leeds. That development was pivotal to the regeneration of the city."

If the success of Lyall's Covent Garden-type scheme in Leeds is anything to go by, the future of St Anne's Wharf looks promising. Certainly, the £30 million project has, so far, been enthusiastically received. The creation of jobs, homes, even a new heritage museum, is welcomed. Terry Elliott Shircore, a King Street resident, says: "The rejuvenation will force improvement along the whole length of the street." Mike Loveday, Norwich City Council's head of planning, says: "The development will be important in linking the city with the riverside."

Work should start on the scheme next spring. The first phase and first loft flats will go on sale in 2000. Only then shall we see whether this particular urban village project has worked and whether King Street has retained its artisan air.

For houses and flats, Eaton Square in Belgravia is the most favoured address of the very wealthy

Belgravia beats Holland Park

What are the best addresses in London, asks **Diana Wildman**

A new survey of central London estate agents has revealed that Eaton Square, Chester Square and Wilton Crescent are the most desirable London addresses. For flats, Eaton Square, Cadogan Square and Cadogan Place are, say the 34 agents surveyed, the best addresses.

This obsession with Belgravia is interesting because, until recently, many estate agents said that the area, compared with neighbouring Chelsea, was losing its appeal for many wealthy buyers.

The reasons, we were told, are twofold. First, overseas buyers — who form the bulk of purchasers at the top end of the market — much prefer to buy freehold properties. These abound in Kensington and Chelsea but are virtually non-existent in Belgravia.

Secondly, the restrictions imposed on commercial and residential properties by the Grosvenor Estate, which owns the freehold of most of Belgravia, deterred buyers.

But, Nick Pearce of the Sloane Square agents, Beaney Pearce, says this is changing. "Buyers are more informed about the 1993 Leasehold Reform Act and realise that they can enfranchise and extend their lease," he says. "We get many potential buyers who refused to buy into Belgravia three or four years ago, but they know that the possibility now exists to extend a lease."

Eaton Square has always had huge cachet, despite being bisected by a busy road. But Lorna Vestey of Knight Frank is surprised to see Chesham Place taking fifth place in the flat stakes. She says: "Sales over the past two years have shown Chesham Place to be central London's most valuable address, far out-performing rates per square foot in Eaton Square."

It is the cachet of Eaton Square together with its location that attracts so much interest, particularly among overseas buyers. A number of these, unfamiliar with London, will live nowhere else, according to Mr Pearce, not least because it is the only place with which they are familiar.

"I recently had an extremely wealthy New York client with several homes worldwide, keen to buy in Eaton Square but whose knowledge of London was limited," he continues. "I tried to suggest other places to look at too but there was no point. He had heard only of Eaton Square."

The fact that beautiful houses overlooking acres of private gardens exist in Notting Hill and that there are grand detached mansions in Holland Park matters not a jot to certain agents who seem keen only to promote areas of international prominence.

Ms Vestey is an exception. "English families, on the whole, want houses with gardens and you tend not to find these in Belgravia," she says. "This is why freehold houses in Kensington and Chelsea have seen the biggest price rises over the past two years. Eaton Square may be the best flat address in London but it is almost unknown as a house address because few of the houses are available for sale.

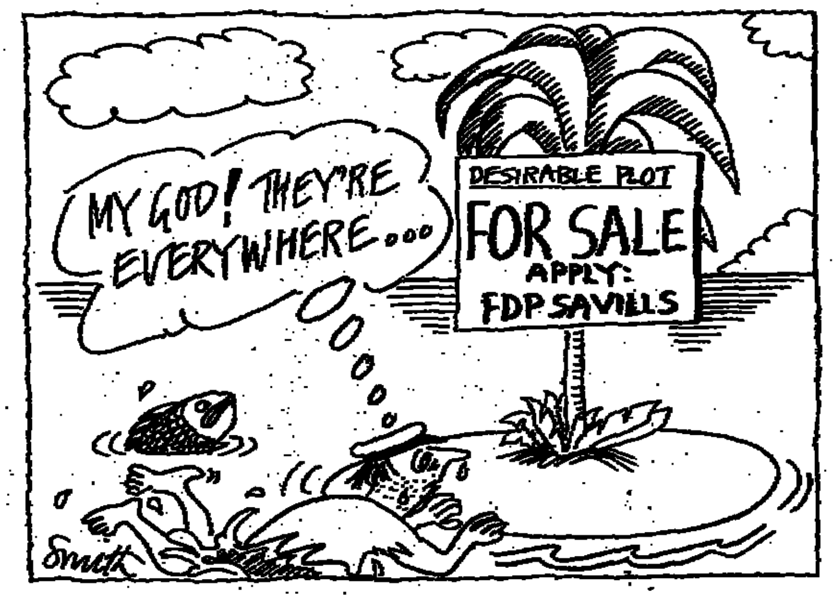
"There are lots of multi-million-pound houses in Kensington and Holland Park, in areas such as Victoria Road, Phillimore Gardens and Addison Road, which we believe should definitely have been included in this survey."

CAPITAL PLACES

London's best house addresses

1	Eaton Square, SW1
2	Chester Square, SW1
3	Wilton Crescent, SW1
4	The Boltons, SW10
5	Belgrave Square SW1
6	Egerton Crescent SW3
7	Cadogan Place SW1
8	Egerton Terrace SW3
9	Gilston Road SW10
10	Chelsea Square SW3

Why one of Britain's oldest estate agencies is changing its name



America beckons a grand old firm

Savills, the estate agent that has handled sales of houses as spacious as Hever Castle, the Astors' family home, and Earl Peel's Gunnerside estate in North Yorkshire, is to be renamed FPD Savills in January. The change comes after the sale of 20 per cent of its shares to the Hong Kong property group First Pacific Davies last week for £17 million.

Savills is the second agent to change name recently. In January, 1996, Rutley vanished from Knight Frank sale boards. The firm's image was one of dealing with ancestral estates, but more than half its business involves office blocks and industrial sites. The partners wanted to swap the impression of tweedy gentleman land agents for the steely image of an international corporation.

The rebranding of Savills, one of the oldest estate agencies, founded by Alfred Savill in 1855, signals the company's plans to expand in the US. Savills hopes to take a stake in an American estate agency and to strengthen its continental links.

Mr Savill set up business as a land agent, surveyor and auctioneer at 27 Rood Lane, London EC3. The firm became Alfred Savill & Sons in 1886, when Alfred took his son into partnership. His grandsons followed in the early 1900s. In 1967, Alfred Savill & Sons merged with the West End firm Curtis & Henson, and in 1972 changed its name to Savills. The firm became a limited company in 1987, and won a stock market listing in 1988.

The rebranding will involve changing 34 estate agency shops in Britain and 36 shops overseas, not to mention numerous sale boards advertising houses and estates for sale. The company refused to disclose the cost of rebranding, but has commissioned a new logo from a design consultancy.

The firm currently has 36 offices in Europe, but none in America. It was previously associated with the US estate agency Galbreath, a tie broken last summer when Galbreath was sold to Lasalle, another American agency. Godfrey Blott, FPD's managing director, said: "I expect we'll announce something in about three months. We need to address entering the American market. If you want to compete with, say, Jones Lang Wootton, you've got to look like them."

JLW is the biggest British surveying firm overseas, and Savills, with 800 employees, is among the top ten international surveying firms.

Pressure for a US expansion had come from existing FPD clients such as IBM and Motorola, Mr Blott added. Several American firms have already approached Savills.

FPD is based in Hong Kong, with 18 offices in eight Asian cities, and the rest in Australia. The FPD group of companies, listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange, has a market capitalisation of £1.5 billion. Savills' commercial and residential agency business will be renamed, but the holding company, Savills plc, is not affected.

RACHEL KELLY

Mortgage rates push up prices

How paying for a home will take more of your salary

HIGHER mortgage rates and rising house prices are likely to push up the cost of houses and flats by nearly 17 per cent by Christmas, new figures show.

Homeowners spend on average £27 out of every £100 of take-home pay on their mortgage. By Christmas, according to the Cheltenham & Gloucester's "affordability index", they can expect to pay £31.50, making housebuying the most expensive it has been for five years.

Twelve months ago the cost of buying a home was just £24.90, the index shows. Since then, it has become more expensive to buy a house. This is because rising mortgage rates and increasing house prices have outweighed the benefits of rising salaries and tax changes.

Sue Anderson of the Council for Mortgage Lenders says such figures should be viewed in context. She adds: "Buying a house is affordable if one looks at long-term trends, although housebuying has become more expensive recently because of the interest rates rises and reduction in tax relief on mortgage interest payments."

Relief on mortgage interest payments is being reduced to 10 per cent from April 6, from the present level of 15 per cent. In 1994, relief was available on 25 per cent of mortgate interest payments. This means that a property costing £31,000 will fall into the same tax-relief bracket as a £200,000 property.

Roger Burden, the managing director of Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, says: "In the early 1990s our index showed buyers spending about £70 in every £100 of take-home pay on mortgages. Rates peaked at more than 15 per cent."

The rise has not reached the levels of earlier this decade. First-time buyers now have to spend on average only 11.9 per cent of their income on their mortgage, compared with 25.3 per cent back in 1990. This fall in initial repayments is caused mostly by the fall in interest rates, which have fallen from 14.99 per cent in 1990 to just 6.78 per cent by the second quarter of 1997.

Ms Anderson says: "Interest rate rises are most likely to affect those on the margins, who are just managing to afford their mortgages."

NEIL HUDSON

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FRANCE	(FFr)	1985	61%	1091	571	502
LUXEMBOURG	(LFr)	9164	65%	5040	2635	2611
NETHERLANDS	(DFl)	778	56%	428	224	188
SPAIN	(PTS)	75299	26%	41414	21648	17143
SWEDEN	(SKr)	5232	14%	2878	1504	1056
SWITZERLAND	(SFr)	809	49%	445	232	177
REST OF EUROPE	(£)	474	–	261	136	130
USA (Airmail)	(US$)	1231	n/a	677	354	349
USA (Airfreight)	(US$)	655	n/a	360	188	262

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CHANGING TIMES

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CITY DOCKLANDS & EAST

BARBICAN EC2 Please call for largest list of flats available for sale Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000.

BOW QUARTER E3. Luxury 1 & 2 beds Apts from £67,000. 3 stops City, security, leisure centre etc. 0181 983 5755

CITY, E1. One bedroom 1st floor flat, private development, nr Tube, £72,500. Tel. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

TAMARIND COURT
Butlers Wharf
1 and 2 bedroom
luxury warehouse
apartments
from £175,000
0171 378 0474

CITY RD EC1. A new conversion of five one bedroom flats, 3 remaining, views over Bunhill Fields prices from £142,500 Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000.

CLERKENWELL, EC1. New development 1 bed from £140,000. Daniel Watney 0171 253 4414

INVESTMENTS In Central London Required for retained clients £1 to 6 million. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

LIMEHOUSE 2 bed overlooking marina, 22' reception, 2 balconies, garage £199,995 L/Hold 0171 480 6815.

OFF FLEET ST EC4 2nd (top) flr one bed flat. Fully equipped kitchenette. Ideal pied-a-terre £119,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000.

SURREY QUAYS 4 bedroom townhouse, balcony overlooking dock, kitchen/diner, nr garden, £166,000 F/hold 0171 480 6815

TOBACCO DOCK Newly repainted 2 bed appt, allocated parking. £129,995 L/hold 0171 480 6815.

TOWER HILL 3 newly converted 2 bed apartments, 20' Reception, new shaker style kitchens, new leases from £194,995 L/Hold 0171 480 6815.

WAPPING 1 bed warehouse conversion with 30ft reception £116,995 L/Hold 0171 480 6815.

DULWICH

DULWICH VILLAGE
SE21
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OIRO £325,000.
Tel: 0181 693 3013.

DULWICH

ATTRACTIVE fully refurb. period cottage, lounge, dining rm, kitchen, 2 bedrms, bathrm, garden. Vacant possession. £91,000. 0181 761 1745.

FULHAM

SEAGRAVE RD SW6 Mod 2 bed town hse, front & back gdn, kit & dining area, reception, bath. F/H £210,000 Aaron & Lewis 0171 244 9711: 244 9838f

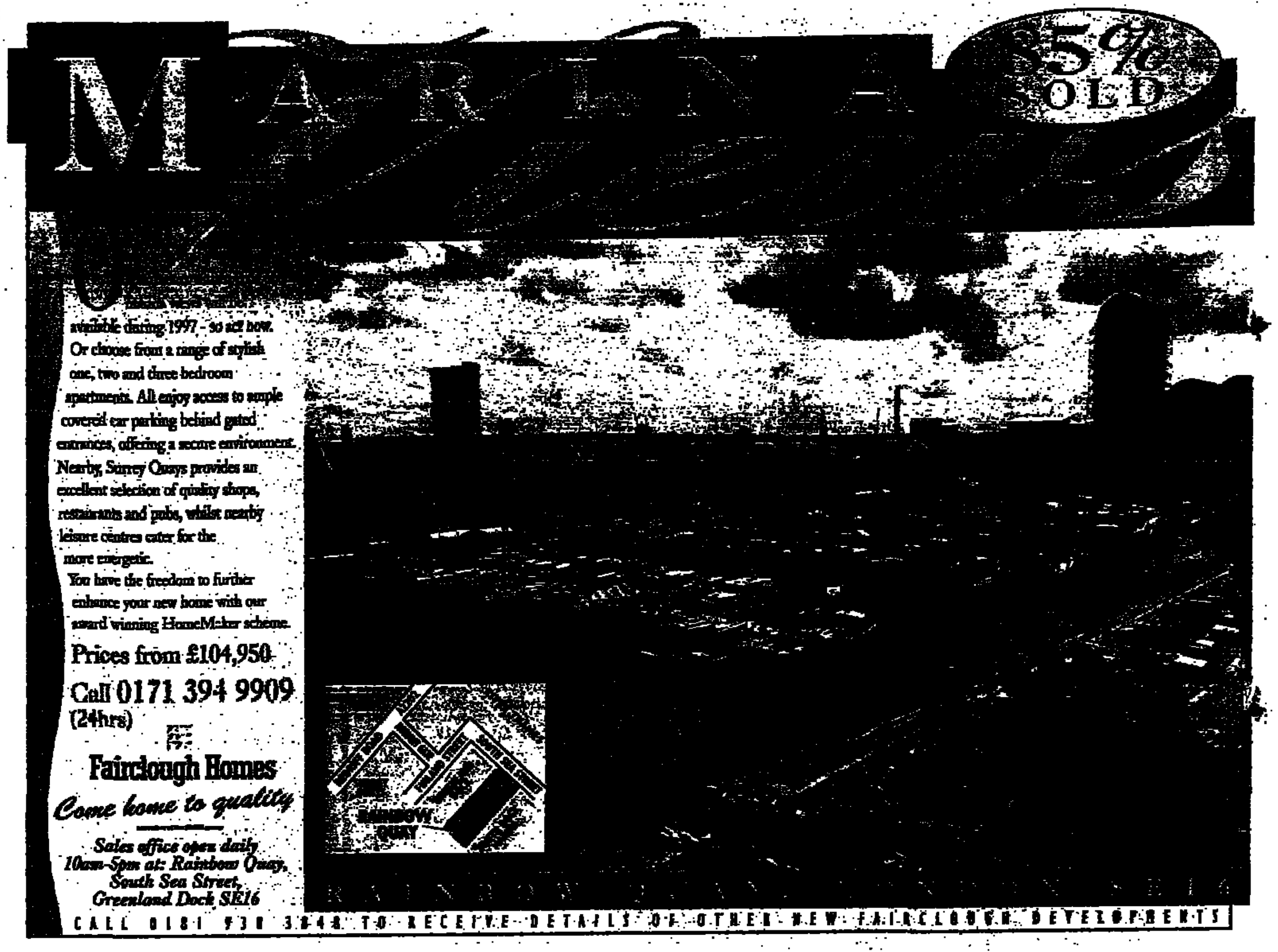
STUNNING interior designed 1 bedroomed GARDEN FLAT, 1 min Harbour Club SW6. £139,995. 07970 686684

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

RUTLAND CT Spacious 4 bed duplex, 4 bath + 3 car garage. Separate 1 bed staff flat. Share of freehold £1.6 million Park Lane Apts 0171 629 0763.

TREVOR SQ 3 bed Freehold house requiring work. W facing garden £1 million Park Lane Apts 0171 629 0763.

NEW HOMES



[illegible] available during 1997 - so act now. Or choose from a range of stylish one, two and three bedroom apartments. All enjoy access to ample covered car parking behind gated entrances, offering a secure environment. Nearby, Surrey Quays provides an excellent selection of quality shops, restaurants and pubs, whilst nearby leisure centres cater for the more energetic.

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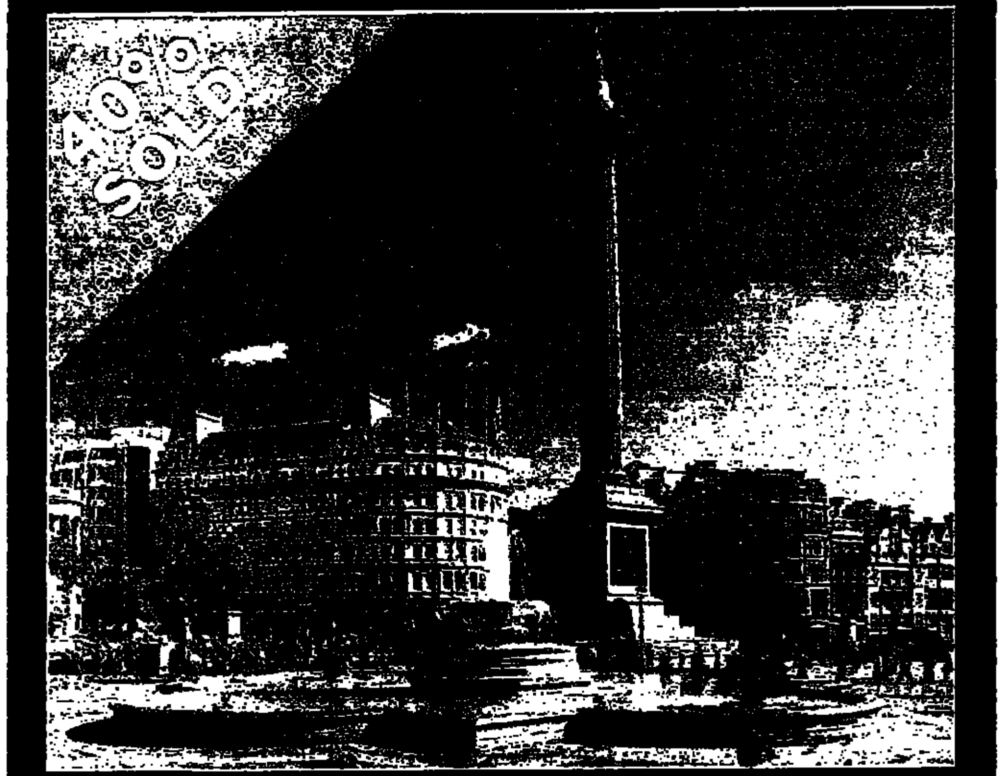

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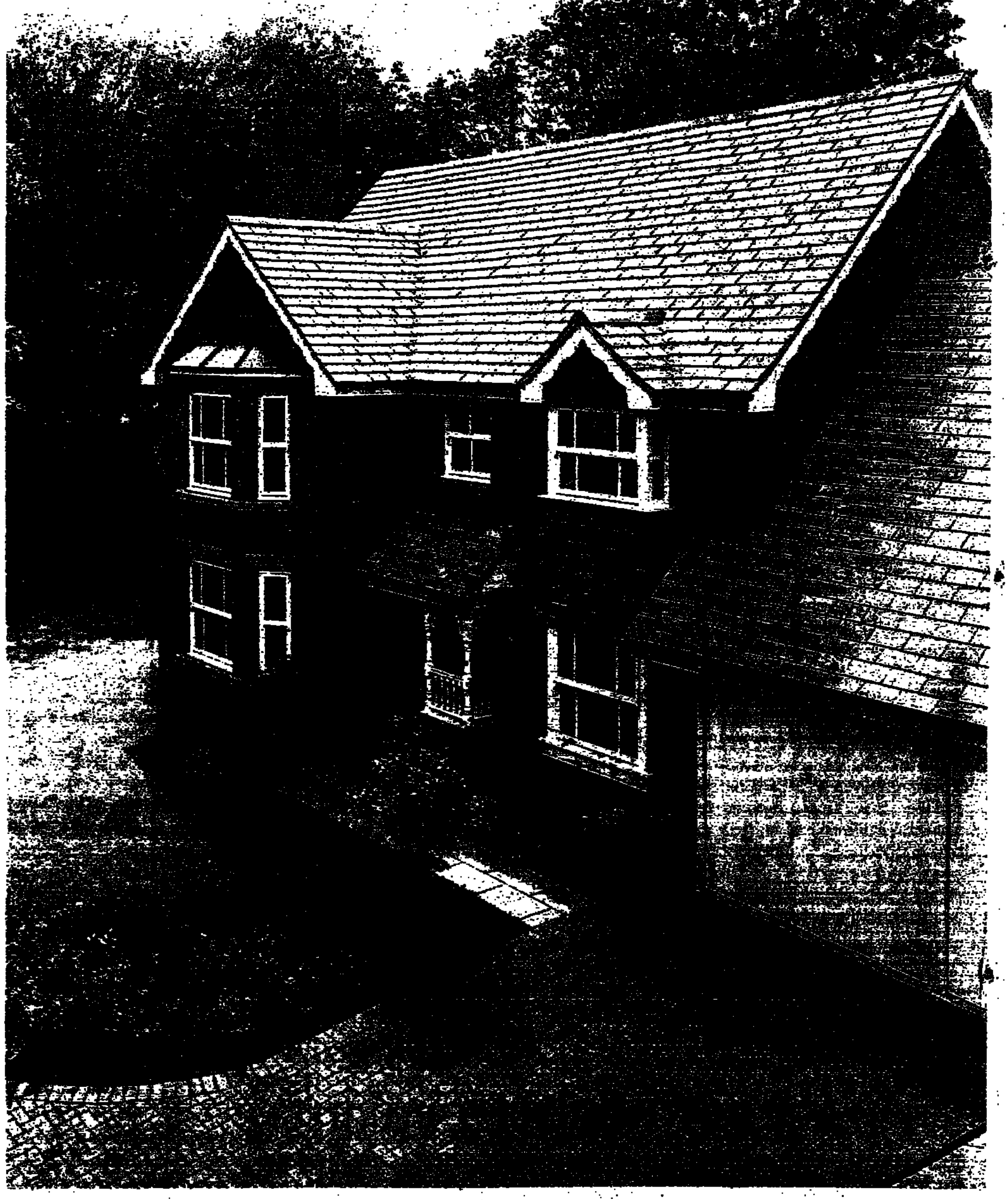

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£775,000 o.n.o.
0171 352 2457

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

EVELYN GDNS, SW7
Very spacious 3/4 bed flat on second floor of period block. South facing view over communal gdns. Double recep, dining room, 3 beds, 2 baths (1 ensuite). Balcony. Lift. Excellent order. 998 years.
£750,000
EGERTON
0171 584 7020

HOLLYWOOD ROAD, SW10
Large Terrace House on 4 floors. Open plan, 4 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double reception room, family room, kitchen, laundry room, study, storage, cellar, large garden.
Freehold £845,000
private sale. Floorplan available.
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TEL PM: 0171 736 9174

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0171 603 4218

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

BAYSWATER: A Freehold house on 6 floors with lift producing £108,160 per annum. £1,100,000. 0171 371 1707

BROOKE GREEN, W14. Lux mod 2 bedrm portered flat, u/g pkg. £190,000 L/H. 0171 603 4444

CHELSEA nr Sloane Sq. Bright 1 bed apt, 4th flr, lift, porter. £220,000. Tel: 01189 733185.

CHELSEA, SW10. Mod 4 bed town house, 2 baths, garden, o/s pkg. £255,000 0171 603 4444

CORNWALL GARDENS SW7 First floor flat, 2 bed, south facing. £630,000 0171 589 6298.

EARLS COURT VILLAGE Kenway Road SW5. Conservation area. Charming 2 bedroom house on 2 floors set in quiet enclave, oak floor, designer kitchen, modernised to high standard. £235,000. Hogarth Estates 0171 373 9537.

HOMESEARCH LONDON LTD. Let us search for you. London's No. 1 Specialist Search Company www.homesearch.co.uk/hom 0171 838 1066. Fax 838 1077.

KENSINGTON. Interior designed light, very spacious lg 3 bed 2 bath. Newly refurbished to excellent standard. 25 x 21 rec. lge kit/din rm. Use of courtfield gdns. £395,000. Hogarth Estates 0171 373 9537.

KENSINGTON SW5 Lge ground flr 2 beds, 2 baths, study + library area, south fac terrace, high ceilings, refurbished to high standard. £242,500. Hogarth Estates 0171 373 9537.

KENSINGTON: 2 freehold houses on 7 floors internally converted to 13 flats with lift, v. high std. £5,000,000. 0171 371 1707

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW3. New refurb 2 bed flat, pvt patio, dble recp. £265,000 L/H 0171 603 4444

OAKLEY ST SW3 unmod 2 dble bed patio flat. long lease. £189,000. 0171 610 6860

OAKWOOD COURT, W14. 3 bed flat, dble recept, lift, porter. £380,000 L/H. 0171 603 4444

PROPERTY EYE HOMESEARCH. Consultants London. No new home no fee. 07071 221110.

SEYMOUR WALK SW10 Freehold house, reception, kitchen, dining room, studio room, 4 beds, 2 bath, garden, CH. £745,000. Tel. 0171 352 0245.

SOUTH KEN. Redcliffe Rd, 1st flr flat, 1 bedrm. £199,000. No Agents. Tel: 0171 373 6578.

EDITH GROVE CHELSEA
STUNNING HOUSE
30 feet skylight, 10 feet high windows, 4 double bedrooms, hi-tech kitchen, 2 bathrooms + 1 Glass block showerroom, large reception room, private parking, terrace, 1,000 sqft garden.
£825,000
Tel: 0171 373 2855(E,w/e)
0171 734 8808(O)

STRANGWAYS TERRACE W14. 5 bedroom mod house in quiet cul-de-sac near High Street Kensington, garage and garden. £625,000. Hogarth Estates 0171 373 9537.

SW3 Priced for quick sale, 3 bed flat, direct acc to Brompton Rd Amenities, long lse, good dec order £269,950 [illegible] 0171 487 4994.

WEST KENSINGTON Superb 3 bedroom garden flat. Spanish style. Own street entrance, garden, patio, ceramic floor, brick fountain in lounge, etc. Furnished. £178,000 quick sale. 0171 602 6600.

MAYFAIR

CHESTERFIELD GDNS 1/2 bed 1st flr flat in prestige portered block. 110 yrs + share of F/Hold. £315,000. Goldenberg & Co 0171 491 4101.

GREEN STREET Elegant top floor maisonette with 2 receptions, 3 bedrooms and attractive modern study area. £750,000. Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344.

GROSVENOR SQUARE Lge 3 bdrm Apt in need of some modernisation with private leisure complex. £695,000. Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344.

MAYFAIR W1 Well arranged 2 bed 4th flr flat(lift) in 1930's building nr transport / shopping facilities & Parks. Would benefit from redecorating. Short lse. Extension avail £250,000ono. 0171 3730033

PARK ST. Bright 1/2 bed 3rd floor flat, good decor. Low outgoings. L/H £185,000. Goldenberg & Co 0171 491 4101.

ST JAMES'S Magnificent period 1st floor apartment, high ceilings. Long lease. £295,000. Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344.

NOTTING HILL

NOTTING HILL GATE
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Large recep. Conservatory/dining rm. 2 beds. Fitted kitchen & bathrm. Sunny roof terrace. Front patio gdn.
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Beautifully presented.
PRICE ON APPLICATION
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WIMBLEDON Charming conversion flat 2 bedrooms, living room, garden, kitchen /breakfast room, features. £119,950. Tel: 0181 944 6844.

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
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Fax 01296 385859.

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Village & Country Property 01392 499699

DORSET

NORTH DORSET rare opportunity, very attractive unusual detached thatched cottage in lovely position, edge of National Trust land Cranborne chase, 3/4 beds, sitting room, entrance hall etc. £215,000. 01747 828994 D 853249 Eve.

EAST ANGLIA

PERIOD village house in wooded garden Nr to A14. Recep hall, 4 recps, Aga kitchen, 5 beds, 3 baths, 7/8 acre (stn) Guide price £285,000 Ref:82482 BIDWELLS 01284 769999

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or Mitchells: 01425 616411

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Guide £345,000
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01962 842742

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4 baths, luxury kitchen, etc
double garage, paddock, gardens
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WILTSHIRE

WYLYE VALLEY WILTSHIRE
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£125,000 FREEHOLD
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WILTSHIRE

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BARBICAN, EC2. 4 bedroom u/f flat 17th flr, 2 bathrooms, nr tube, £650pw. Tel. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

BARBICAN, EC2. 2 bed p'house £350pw. Also studio £200pw. Daniel Watney 0171 253 4414

BARNES SW13 Spacious unfurn 3 bed maisonette, comm gdn. £275pw. 0181 563 1936 eves.

BELGRAVIA Excellent value spacious 2 bed 2 bath flat £500pw DM & Co. 0171 225 3111

CANARY WHF New lux lge 2 & 3 bd 2 bth FF pkg nr DLR fr £210 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

CHELSEA Prestigious 3 bed house, unfurn, new decor, gdn. £790pw. GPP 0171 486 6047

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DOCKLANDS Sunny large s/facing furnished 1 bedrm flat on river. Porter, parking. £280pw. 0181 355 6801.

FULHAM Bright and sunny large 1 bed furnished flat with study and terrace. £260pw. 0171 386 9286 or 0802 213777

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London W1
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GT PORT. ST V lux lge new conv 3 bed 2 bath FF nr tube fr £450 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

HENDON V lge lux brd new 3 bd 2 bth FF sec pkg nr tube fr £475 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

ISLINGTON Superb refurb 4 bed Grade I t'house £700pw. Also 2 bed £425pw. 0171 253 4414

KENSINGTON, SW7 Unfurn newly conv carpeted & dec basement flat. 2 double beds, baths, shower rm, lge recep, fit kit. £400pw. 0171 404 7704

KENSINGTON Self contained furnished studio flat, garden, electric & CH included. £180pw (no agents). 0171 376 5478.

KENSINGTON New decor & carpets, CH, V large recep, 2 beds, kitchen & bathroom, nr tube £435pw. 0171 225 3068

KENSINGTON, SW7. CH. V large recep, bedroom, K & B, nr tube. £260pw. 0171 225 3068

KINGS RD 5 min. Lux lge 2bd 2 bth pkg o/l riv use of H'bour club £525pw. 0171 488 1458

LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The Specialist local agents, furn accom. Vickers 0171 289 1692

LITTLE VENICE V lux lge 3bd 2bth FF s/l o/l canal nr tube £425 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

MAIDA VALE V spacious 2 bed 2 bath flat, porter, newly furn, £425pw. 0171 379 4816

MANCHESTER ST, W1. Lux 1 bed flat with parquet flrs in small prestige bldg, close Oxford St. Refs essential. Must be seen. £350pw. Long let Central Estates 0171 224 3773

MARLYBONE W1 Immaculate 2 dble beds, 2 bath 1 en-suite, 2 good sized receps, lux ff kitchen, bright 3rd flr with lift. £480pw. MPS 0171 637 1828

MARYLEBONE Lux lge new 1 & 3 bd FF pkg nr tube. fr £325-625 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

MWS/Millfield. Modern spacious family townhouse, unfurn, 4 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps, kit/b'fast rm, garage, patio. £950pw. 0171 379 4816

PIMLICO New V lux lge 2 dbl bd 2 bth FF pkg terr o/river £560pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

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S. KEN, SW7. Spacious and bright 2 dbl bed 2 bth flt, terr, 2 min tube £450pw. 0171 938 2688

SHORT LETS K'bridge/West End, 1 beds from £400pw+ Available and required.0171 225 3111

SLOANE SQ. Smart studio flat pied-a-terre, 4th flr (lift) porter, £275pw. 0171 225 3111

SPITALFIELDS New dev. adj. to Liv. St. Stn. Large dble studio with fitted bed area. Sep. toilet, kit & bath. Fully equipped and furnished to a high standard. £230pw. Tel:0171 6387658

STH KEN New 3 bed unfurn hse in mews. Lge kit, 2 bths gge. £725pw. 0171 379 4816

ST JAMES' SQ, SW1. Bright 2 bed, 2 bath duplex flat on 8th flr of popular portered block, views of gdn sq. £550pw. Goldenberg & Co. 0171 491 4101

ST JAMES PK 5 min. Lux lge 1 & 2 bd FF pkg gym & pool fr £280 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

ST JOHNS WOOD Stunning 2 bed 2 bath furn duplex apt plus guest room/study. Avail immed. £495pw. 0171 354 3283

ST JOHNS WD: O/look Primrose Hill. Spac unfurn 5 room 2 bath mais. £800pw. 0171 586 9842

St JOHNS WOOD Short let. 3 bed House, study, dbl recep, gdn. £750pw Neg. 0171 3727210.

SW5 Attractive newly refurbished 4th flr (lift) Edwardian Mansion flat 2 recep, lge kitchen/brek rm, 3 bed, 3 bath comm gdns, porterage. Unfurn £775pw. 0171 373 0033

SW1 Brd new 2 bed flat 2 baths pkg, newly furn, £450pw. 0171 379 4816

SW1 Lux lge brd new 1,2 & 3 bd 2 bth FF port pkg nr tube fr £350 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

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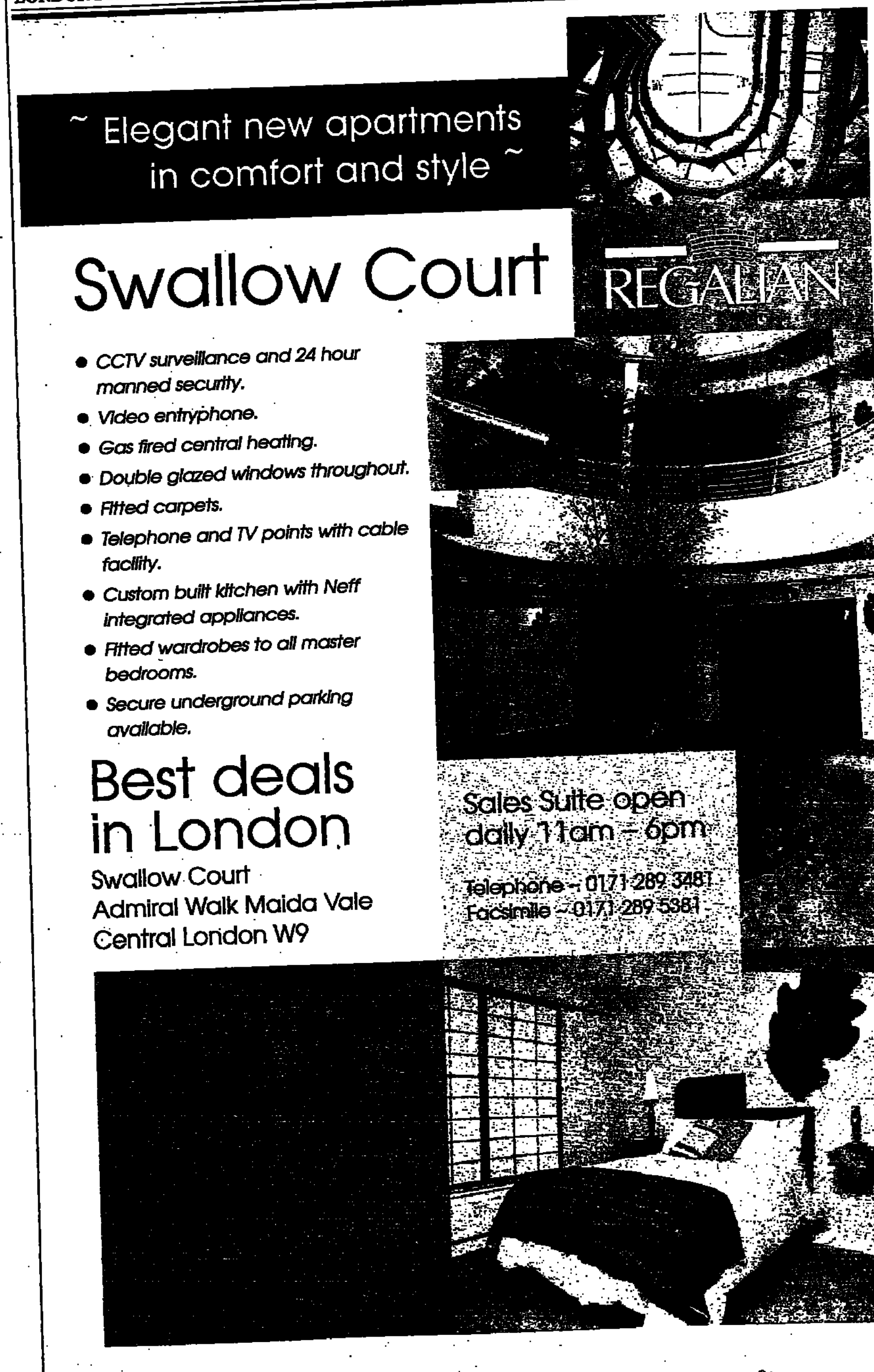
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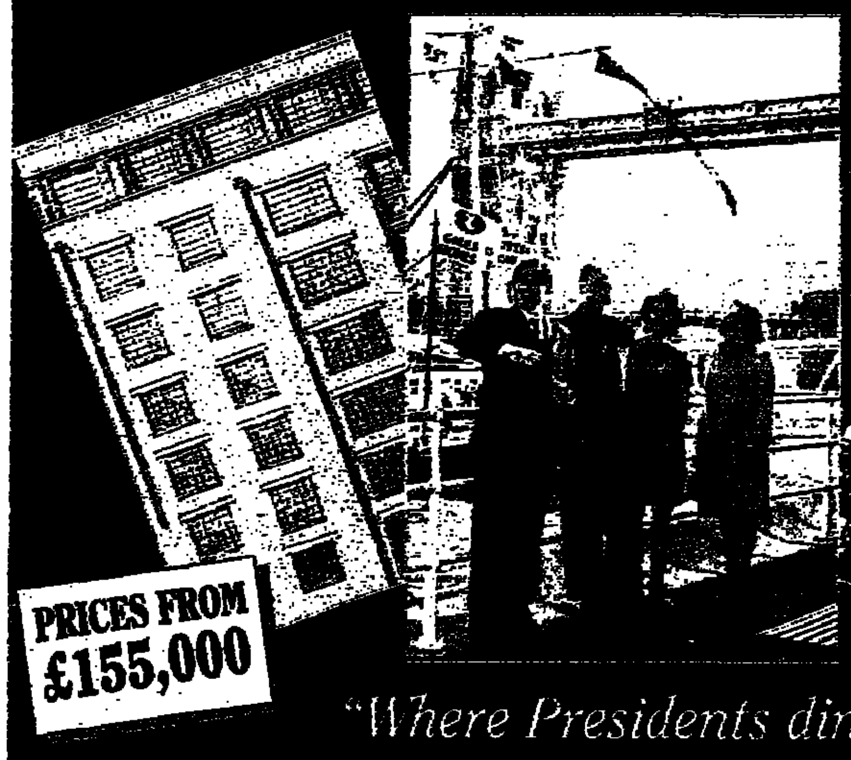

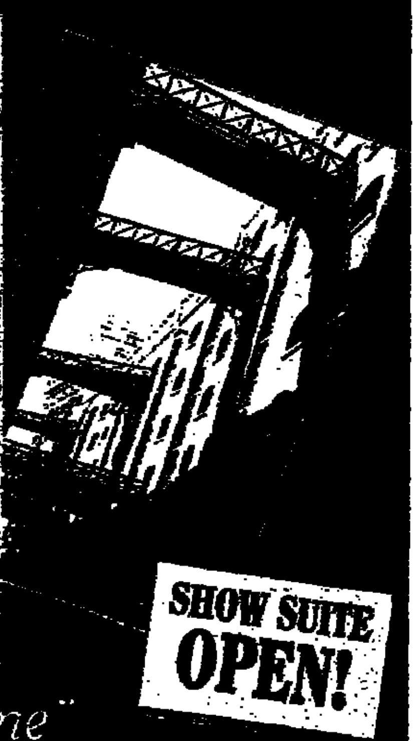

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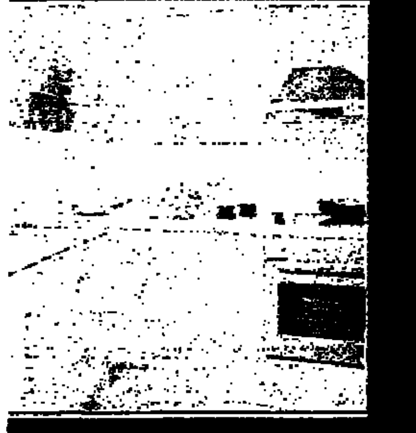

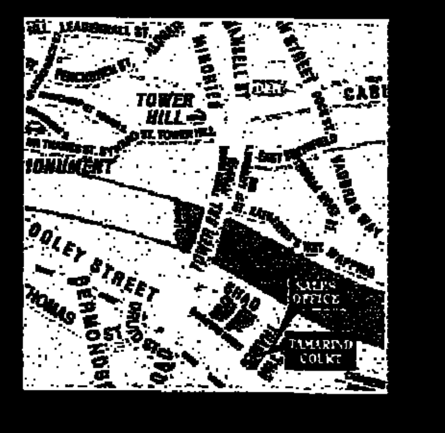

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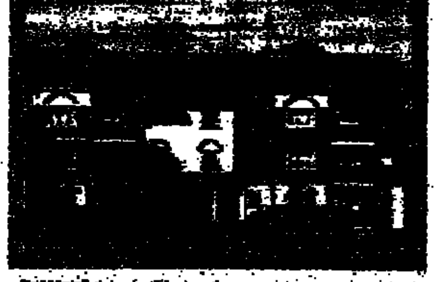

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RACING

Viking Flagship lifts gloom with fighting display

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

RACES have been run at what is now called Exeter racecourse since the reign of Charles I came to a sticky end in 1649, but few can have surpassed the spectacle which unfolded yesterday as Viking Flagship outbattled Mulligan, his junior stable companion, in a memorable renewal of the William Hill Haldon Gold Cup Steeplechase.

If the treat of a rehearsal for the Queen Mother Champion Chase was not sufficient this early in the season, National Hunt enthusiasts can now relish the prospect of a repeat performance or performances between the two David Nicholson-trained chasers.

Both have been pencilled in for the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown and the Castleford Chase at Wetherby. "If they clash, hey clash. Neither owner bets, both love the sport and that is what it is all about," Nicholson said.

Even the fog, which swirled for most of the afternoon around the historic racecourse perched on the top of Telegraph Hill, deigned to lift briefly as the six runners made their way to post.

In the betting ring, punters appeared to be distinctly ageist in their preferences. Viking Flagship, something of a veteran at ten, was allowed to drift from an opening 7-1 to an insulting 9-1, while Mulligan, three years his junior, was 2-1, with Ask Tom installed the 7-4 favourite.

Mulligan, a faller at Cheltenham and Aintree last season, set a demanding pace from the start under Adrian Maguire. Gales Cavalier, race-fit after a recent Wincanton victory, tried briefly to keep up with the gallop but soon found it too much and it was left to Ask Tom to jump alongside the leader from the fourth to seventh fences.

All the time, Viking Flagship stalked the pacemakers, initially some lengths away before creeping closer.

Unexpectedly, Ask Tom suddenly faded tamely and was pulled up before the third last, leaving Mulligan with a generous lead which looked sure to be converted into victory.

But, as he turned for home, the demanding pace was beginning to take its toll and Viking Flagship, travelling well, loomed up alongside. Richard Johnson waited until just before the last before taking the lead and any hopes Mulligan's supporters may have retained were dashed by a magnificent leap from Viking Flagship.

Nicholson, visibly moved, said: "I have never had one like him. He has won over £500,000 in prize-money. He came back to us before our open day on August 17. Usually we don't get him back until the end of September and the way he has been working at home, I knew he was right."

Johnson said: "Viking Flagship was struggling for the first half of the race, which made me think they must have been going pretty quickly. But he gradually got into it and he jumped up the straight like a superstar. He has been doing it for years and knows more about the game than I do."

Tom Tate, the trainer of Ask Tom, was nonplussed by the poor performance of the favourite. "He was well, fit and fancied. We are grasping at straws. The only thing I can think of is that he has never travelled overnight before. He has not eaten an oat but I am not putting that forward as an explanation."

The magnificent duel between Nicholson's horses could not have been better timed for Exeter, which wrote another page in its history with the opening of an extension to the Brockman stand, complete with a new owners' and trainers' bar, hospitality suites and betting hall.

Singspiel scare

Singspiel, the favourite for the Breeders' Cup Turf at Hollywood Park on Saturday, has suffered a minor foot problem. His trainer, Michael Stoute, postponed a workout planned for yesterday but expects Singspiel to be fit to exercise today. "We had a little problem," Stoute said. "We were rather concerned but he is fine. He can live with it." Ladbrokes makes Singspiel 5-4 favourite from evens.

JOE MANN

Might And Power holds on by a short head to beat Doriemus in a thrilling finish to the Melbourne Cup

Harbour Dues has rough passage

From Brian Meldrum in Melbourne

MISFORTUNE in running may well have cost Harbour Dues, trained by Lady Herries, a famous victory in the Melbourne Cup yesterday. Ridden by Ray Cochrane, the five-year-old came with a storming run through the last two furlongs to finish fourth, a length behind the winner, Might And Power, the 7-2 favourite. The Queen's Arabian Story also ran a creditable race to finish sixth, and he too might have finished closer but for a slow start.

Harbour Dues suffered interference four furlongs from home which Cochrane believed cost him a higher placing, if not victory. The interference, he reported, put him further back than he wanted to be on the home turn, and left him with some eight lengths to make up on Might And Power, who made all of the running. "At the top of the straight I thought we had a bit of running to do, but I knew we had plenty left," Cochrane said.

Greg Hall, the rider of Doriemus, was given a severe reprimand for causing the interference which cost Harbour Dues more than the margin by which he was beaten.

Lady Herries was delighted with the performance of Harbour Dues and immediately announced plans to bring him back next year. "It was a fantastic run," she said. "He just flew when he got out. Everyone wrote him off, but we knew he would run well."

Arabian Story ran into some minor interference early in the race, but his rider, Frankie Dettori, still considered he had a winning chance four furlongs out.

"He stayed on well to finish a gallant sixth," Dettori said. "That's probably as good as he could have gone, but if he had broken with them and not struck trouble he could have finished a couple of lengths closer."

Lord Huntingdon, Arabian Story's trainer, finished ninth with Drum Taps in 1993, but predicted he would have a runner in the first three next time. "We're getting closer," he said. "It was worth coming here, the horse acquitted himself well. I shall recommend to the Queen that Arabian Story be prepared for the race again next year."

Might And Power, who won the Caulfield Cup two weeks ago, produced an impressive staying effort under Jim Cassidy to complete the double. He fended off Crying Game and then Linesman before finding the reserves to hold the challenge of Doriemus.

However, the result proved costly for the bookmakers, leaving Kerry Packer — arguably the biggest punter in the world — the richer by an estimated £2.5 million.

BIG-RACE DETAILS

Going: good

04.20 FOSTER'S MELBOURNE CUP (Handicap: £868,224: 2m)

1, MIGHT AND POWER (J Cassidy, 7-2 fav); 2, Doriemus (G Hall, 9-1); 3, Markham (L Dittman, 25-1); 4, Harbour Dues (R Cochrane, 40-1). ALSO RAN (in finishing order): Linesman (5th), Arabian Story (6th), Skybeau, Ebony Grosve, Saplo, Grandmaster, Court Of Honour, Magnet Bay, Viall, Always Aloof, Scrupulous, Yobro, Sunny Lane, Marble Halls, Alta, Bonsai Pipeline, Crying Game, Mount Chwas. 22 ran. Sh hd, ¾l, ½l, nose, 2¼l. J Denham. Tote (inc 1$Aus): 5.70; 2.90, 3.70, 8.90.

BOWLS

Disbelief as Canada upset the old world

From David Rhys Jones in Hong Kong

JIM AITKEN, from Vancouver, and Lyall Adams, of Edmonton, were on the telephone to Canada yesterday, after they beat the world pairs champions, Jeremy Henry and Sammy Allen, of Ireland, in the third round of the Manulife Hong Kong International Classic in Kowloon.

"It's not often that Canadian bowlers get the chance to meet, let alone beat, the world champions and we could not believe what we had done," Adams said after calling home to tell his friends and family.

The Irish went into the last end one shot in front, but Adams conjured up two shots with his very last bowl and Canada edged home, 16-15.

Such shocks are prone to happen in round-robins and there is time for the Irish to recover. Indeed, they bounced back to beat Lo Shu Wing and Tsang Chung Piu, of the intriguingly named Correctional Services Club, 33-12.

Wales recorded the highest score of the championships — 42, against Victoria Park — England returned the biggest winning margin, in their 41-8 success over Hong Kong Football Club, and Scotland compiled the longest scoring sequence, compiling 32 shots without reply against China Light and Power.

Andy Wills and Stuart Airey, of England, earned a 18-16 win over Ireland last night and, after five rounds, stand third in section B, while David Gourlay and Graham Robertson, of Scotland, put their opening defeat at the hands of Hong Kong behind them and are top of section A.

Hong Kong's official representatives, Tony Tong and Jacky Wong, turned a 13-1 deficit into an extraordinary 32-17 victory to inflict a first defeat on Jim Melbourne and Ken Wallis, of Kowloon Cricket Club.

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FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

European Cup Champions' League

Group A
Borussia Dortmund v Parma (7.45)
Galatasaray v Sparta Prague (7.45)

Group B
Feyenoord v Man Utd (7.45)
Juventus v FC Kosice (7.45)

Group C
Barcelona v Dynamo Kiev (7.45)
Newcastle v PSV Eindhoven (7.45)

Group D
FC Porto v Rosenborg (7.45)
Olympiakos v Real Madrid (7.45)

Group E
IFK Gothenburg v Besiktas (7.45)
Paris S-G v Bayern Munich (7.45)

Group F
Bayer Leverkusen v Sp Lisbon (7.45)
Lierse Sk v AS Monaco (7.45)

Nationwide League
First division
Middlesbrough v Portsmouth (7.45)
Swindon v QPR (7.45)

Third division
Brighton v Barnet (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League
Second division
Clydebank v Queen Of South

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: First round, second leg: Sittingbourne (3) v Crawley (3), Wisbech Town (0) v Grantham (1)

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First round replay: Porthleven v Swindon Supermarine; Newbury AFC v Endsleigh

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Southampton v Tottenham Hotspur (at Staplewood); Watford v Queens Park Rangers (at Northwood FC); Wimbledon v Luton (at Plough Lane, 2.0). Postponed: Ipswich v West Ham United.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Cup: Group one: Oldham v Burnley (at Stalybridge Celtic FC, 7.0). Group two: Sheffield United v Scunthorpe (at Don Valley Stadium, 7.0). Group three: Walsall v Leicester (7.0). Group four: Stockport v Bury (at Hyde United FC, 7.0); Wigan v Stoke (7.0). Group six: Rotherham v Blackpool (7.0); Tranmere v Scarborough (7.0).

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Penrith v Murton

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Corinthian v Chatham.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridport v Bideford; Torrington v Barnstaple

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Soham v Newmarket; Stowmarket v Felixstowe Port and Town

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Cowes Sports v Ryde Sports, Eastleigh v Gosport.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Deveronvale v Nairn County (8.0).

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Shrewsbury v Boldmere St M; Bradford v Nuneaton; Bournemouth v Gillingham, Huddersfield v York. Third qualifying round replay: Wembley v Walton and Hersham.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Boodle and Dunthorne Cup: Bolton v Wellingborough; Shrewsbury v St Bedes

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches
London Irish v New South Wales (7.30)
Oxford Univ v Tonga (7.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Tour Match
Wales Students v Queensland Students (at UWIC RUFC, 7.0)

KEMPTON PARK

THUNDERER

1.30 NO PATTERN (nap)
2.00 Menesonic
2.30 Knightsbridge Scot
3.00 Bayerd
3.30 Lets Be Frank
4.00 Royal Piper

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.00 BAYERD.

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.30 BONFIRE PARTY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,222: 2m) (7 runners)

1	2113-	YET AGAIN 81F (F,S) (A Griffin) Miss G Kelleway 5-12-0	R Thornton	105
2	3136P4-	NO PATTERN 194 (S) (K Higson) G L Moore 5-11-3	M Batchelor (3)	124
3	13125-P	SPRINTFAYRE 8 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs O Foster) J Long 9-11-1	P Henley	107
4	3/1/	KIMBERS 1128 (D,F) (G Wareham) G Wareham 9-10-5	L Aspell	–
5	0-40145	TANGO MAN 5 (D,F) (T G K Construction Ltd) J O'Shea 5-10-0	J Magee	111
6	0/242P-	ALKA INTERNATIONAL 209 (P Townsley) Mrs P Townsley 5-10-0	X Aizpuru	116
7	558/0	DIGPAST 15 (Miss S Jones) J Bridger 7-10-0	Sophie Mitchell	–

Long handicap: Tango Man 9-12, Alka International 9-9, Digpast 9-1.

BETTING: 15-8 Yet Again, 9-4 No Pattern, 9-2 Sprintfayre, 8-1 Tango Man, 10-1 Alka International, 14-1 Kimbers, 20-1 Digpast.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS Yet Again 4¾l 3rd to Albemine in course and distance handicap hurdle (good to firm); previously beat Lucia Forte 1¾l in 2m 1f Taunton novice hurdle (good). No Pattern 23l 4th to Sounds Like Fun in 2m Ascot novice handicap hurdle (good to firm). Sprintfayre pulled up in 2m Towcester handicap hurdle (good to firm); previously 39l last of 5 to Tickerty's Gift in 2½m Lingfield handicap hurdle (good to soft). Kimbers beat Bell One 2½l in 2m Wincanton novice hurdle (good to firm). Tango Man 14l 5th to Sylvan Sabre in 2m 1f Bangor handicap hurdle (good). Alka International pulled up in 2¾m Fontwell maiden hurdle (good to firm); previously short head 2nd of 11 to Reverse Thrust in Plumpton novice hurdle (good to firm). Digpast 32l 7th to Reach The Clouds in 2m 1f Plumpton handicap hurdle (good).

YET AGAIN, in good form on the Flat this term, is taken to defy top weight

2.00 GUNPOWDER PLOT NOVICES CHASE

(£3,355: 3m) (4 runners)

1	23513-1	MENESONIC 13 (D,G,S) (Mrs W Walter) R Alner 7-11-8	A Thornton	116
2	/PPU-UP	BENBULBIN 13 (C Tilly) J Mullins 7-11-0	P Henley (3)	–
3	340P-	ELY'S HARBOUR 251 (Mrs J Bishop) D Sherwood 6-11-0	J Osborne	–
4	/41651-	KILMINGTON 219 (F,G) (H Pelham) J Gifford 8-11-0	P Hide	–

BETTING: 5-4 Menesonic, 11-8 Kilmington, 4-1 Ely's Harbour, 33-1 Benbulbin.

1996: BARONET 6-11-0 A Maguire (8-13 fav) D Nicholson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS Menesonic beat Galatasori Jane 13l in 3¼m Wincanton novice chase (good) with Benbulbin (6lb better off) pulled up. Ely's Harbour pulled up in 3¼m Huntingdon novice hurdle (good to soft); previously 30l 9th to Red Blazer in 2¾m Leicester novice hurdle (good to soft). Kilmington beat Southernhay Boy 15l in 2¾m Wincanton novice hurdle (firm).

MENESONIC can confirm the favourable impression created at Wincanton

2.30 FIREWORK NIGHT NOVICES HURDLE

(£2,857: 2m 5f) (11 runners)

1		BALLAD ROCKET (M Roberts) M J Roberts 5-10-10	P Henley (3)	–
2	00-	CHARLIE BANKER 264 (D R A C Partnership) K Burke 5-10-10	R Thornton (3)	70
3	04-	EIRESPRAY 319 (T Hemmings) Mrs S Smith 5-10-10	R Guest	86
4	0/31FP/	FOR JOSH 613P (S) (P Townsley) Mrs P Townsley 8-10-10	Mr P Townsley	–
5	5F	JOLLY JAMES 18 (Brigadier Racing) Mrs M Jones 5-10-10	D Byrne	58
6	0/1202/	KNIGHTSBRIDGE SCOT 621 (F) (Knightsbridge BC) Miss V Williams 5-10-10	R Johnson	–
7		MORGANS HILL (Mrs J Bishop) D Sherwood 5-10-10	J Osborne	–
8	00/05-	RISING MAN 236 (B Naylor) J Gifford 5-10-10	L Aspell (3)	69
9	071340-	SCORING PEDIGREE 198 (S) (Winsford Racing Pars) J Mullins 5-10-10	A Thornton	–
10	P/P060-	YOUNG TYCOON 280 (A Darlington) A J Wilson 5-10-10	L Harvey	–
11		SHINING DANCER 12F (Lakeside Partnership) S Dow 5-10-5	D Bridgwater	–

BETTING: 9-4 Scoring Pedigree, 4-1 Morgans Hill, 5-1 Knightsbridge Scot, 5-1 Shining Dancer, 8-1 Rising Man, 10-1 Jolly James, 12-1 Eirespray, 25-1 others.

1996: MILLERSFORD 5-10-10 J R Kavanagh (11-2) N Gaselee 11 ran

FORM FOCUS Charlie Banker beaten a distance 7th to Queen Of Spades in 2m Sandown novice hurdle (good to soft). Eirespray 31l 4th to Aljulu in 2m Haydock novice hurdle (good). Jolly James fell in 2¾m Stafford novice hurdle (good); previously 40l 3rd to Sofyaan in 2m Chepstow novice hurdle (good to firm). Knightsbridge Scot 5l 2nd to Decide Yourself in 2m novice hurdle here (good). Rising Man 31l 8th to Sharpical in 2¼m Folkestone novice hurdle (good). Scoring Pedigree 32l 14th to Arctic Camper in 2m Punchestown NH flat race (good). Shining Dancer won over 2m here on Flat. Interesting newcomer

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SCOT is a tentative choice to overcome a lengthy absence

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Timekeeper's speed rating.

3.00 GUY FAWKES HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,388: 3m) (6 runners)

1	122P4-1	MONYMOSS 15 (D,G) (S Powell) Mrs S Smith 8-12-0	R Guest	109
2	P36P-11	SOLO GENT 28 (D,F,G,S) (Eastbury Racing Club) A P Jones 8-11-8	S McNeill	118
3	6/1222-	HIGH LEARIE 217 (BF,S) (E Harvey) A H Harvey 7-11-3	J A McCarthy	126
4	1124223	BAYERD 15 (BF,D,F,G,S) (T G K Construction Ltd) J O'Shea 6-11-0	R Thornton (3)	127
5	1/PF1F/	SAN FERNANDO 929 (G,S) (Mrs S Embiricos) J Gifford 11-10-13	P Hide	–
6	4544-64	LAKE OF LOUGHREA 13 (B,F,G) (Mrs H Dolley) K Bailey 7-10-13	A Thornton	121

BETTING: 15-8 Monymoss, 7-2 Solo Gent, 9-2 Bayerd, 6-1 San Fernando, 7-1 High Learie, 8-1 Lake Of Loughrea.

1996: DRUMCULLEN 7-11-0 C O'Dwyer (4-1) K Bailey 7 ran

FORM FOCUS Monymoss beat The Gopher 2l in 3m Huntingdon handicap chase (good). Solo Gent beat Count Barachois 11l in 3m1f Towcester handicap chase (good). High Learie beaten a distance when 2nd to Domaine De Pron in 3m Worcester novice chase (good to firm). Bayerd 1¾l 3rd to Frazer Island in 2½m Chepstow handicap chase (good). San Fernando, fell at Ayr latest, previously beat Rocky Park 15l in 2m5f Wincanton novice chase (soft). Lake Of Loughrea 17l 4th to Inch Emperor in amateurs 2½m Ludlow handicap chase (good to firm).

MONYMOSS, raised just 2lb for his easy Huntingdon success, has solid claims

3.30 PARLIAMENT NOVICES CHASE

(£3,371: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

1	45/651-	WHO AM I 179 (D,S) (H Wellstead) R Alner 7-11-6	A Thornton	110
2	P/221-	BOURBON COUNTY 241P (G) (Gilberts Animal Feed) Miss S Wilton 7-11-0	R Farrant	–
3	111512-	LETS BE FRANK 249 (BF,D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Stobart) N Chance 6-11-0	R Johnson	–
4	F46220-	OPERETTO 186 (G Nock) Mrs S Nock 7-11-0	J R Kavanagh	–
5	2/142P-	ROYAL RAVEN 265 (D,G) (A Walter) J Gifford 6-11-0	P Hide	–
6	/8412-P	SHEKELS 39 (G) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 6-11-0	G Bradley	–
7	12151P-	SPRING GALE 204 (D,F,G) (M Cobb, B Earl, P May) O Sherwood 6-11-0	J Osborne	–

BETTING: 2-1 Spring Gale, 3-1 Lets Be Frank, 6-1 Who Am I, Operetto, 7-1 Royal Raven, Shekels, 12-1 Bourbon County.

1996: FINE THYNE 7-11-0 M A Fitzgerald (6-5 fav) G Harwood 8 ran

FORM FOCUS Who Am I beat With Impunity 1½l in 2½m grade II Worcester novice hurdle (good to soft). Lets Be Frank neck 2nd to Edgemoor Prince in 2½m Warwick handicap hurdle (good). Operetto 62l 9th to Eau De Cologne in 2½m Hereford novice hurdle (good). Shekels, pulled up at Market Rasen latest, previously 2l 2nd to Isis Dawn in 2¾m Stratford novice hurdle (good). Spring Gale, pulled up at Cheltenham latest, previously beat Charley Lambert 1¾l in 2½m Doncaster novice hurdle (good to firm).

LETS BE FRANK, a useful hurdler, will be hard to beat if taking to the larger obstacles

4.00 CATESBY HANDICAP HURDLE

(£3,420: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

1	1533P41	SMITH TOO 11 (D,F,G) (Smith Mansfield Meat Co) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-10	R Farrant	114
2	44126-1	FLYING FIDDLER 18 (B,C,F,G) (M Roberts) M J Roberts 6-11-9	P Henley (3)	121
3	425331-	ROYAL PIPER 217 (D,F,S) (A Darlington) A J Wilson 10-11-8	L Harvey	119
4	441635-	SMUGGLER'S POINT 184 (F,G) (Mrs V Hoare) J Bridger 7-11-1	Sophie Mitchell (5)	120
5	U3P-340	JOVIAL MAN 15 (F,S) (Mrs B Marchant) R O'Sullivan 8-10-9	J Osborne	112

BETTING: 7-4 Flying Fiddler, 11-4 Smith Too, 7-2 Royal Piper, 13-2 Smuggler's Point, 7-1 Jovial Man.

1996: OCEAN HAWK 4-11-11 C Llewellyn (9-4 fav) N Twiston-Davies 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Smith Too beat Couchant neck in 3m Market Rasen handicap hurdle (good). Flying Fiddler beat Sharp Command 5l in 2m5f Kempton handicap hurdle (good). Royal Piper beat Barford Sovereign ½l in 3m Worcester handicap hurdle (good to firm). Smuggler's Point 21l 5th to St Ville in 2¾m Fontwell handicap hurdle (good to firm). Jovial Man beaten a distance 8th to Tidal Force in 2½m Chepstow handicap hurdle (good).

SMITH TOO, a game winner at Market Rasen, can defy top weight

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
R Alner	9	33	27.3	J Osborne	29	111	26.1
K Bailey	11	54	20.4	P Henley	3	12	25.0
Mrs J Pitman	6	31	19.4	N Williamson	14	71	19.7
O Sherwood	8	42	19.0	P Hide	6	53	11.3
S Dow	3	21	14.3	S McNeill	4	36	11.1
C Brooks	4	34	11.8	Only qualifiers			

HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER

1.10 Foundry Lane. 1.40 Carlisle Bandito's. 2.10 Regal Romper. 2.40 Saint Ciel. 3.10 Leviticus. 3.40 The Proms. 4.10 Castle Clear.

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

1.10 THOMSON LOCAL NOVICES HURDLE

(£2,941: 2m) (15 runners)

101	61	PRINCE KINSKY 13 (D,G) J Old 4-11-4	C Llewellyn	96
102	22	CUL DE SAC 18 S Brookshaw 5-10-12	S Wynne	102
103	025/	CURRENT MONY 583 M Hammond 6-10-12	R Garritty	–
104	252-	FIRST LIGHT 253 J J Quinn 5-10-12	A Maguire	–
105		FOUNDRY LANE 46F Mrs M Reveley 6-10-12	P Niven	–
106	132-	LANDLER 138F (D,G) J Norton 4-10-12	E Callaghan (3)	–
107		OCEAN STREAM 20F L Barratt 4-10-12	D Gallagher	–
108	0/	ORANGE PLACE 9F B Llewellyn 6-10-12	Mr J L Llewellyn	–
109	05/	PENTRE FFYNNON 611 J Berry 5-10-12	D Parker	–
110	0-63	RUN FOR THE MILL 11 J Jefferson 5-10-12	A K Smith (7)	78
111	U0/	SHERAZ 12F N Tinkler 5-10-12	A S Smith	–
112	4-	TROUBLED MAN 214P G Richards 6-10-12	A Dobbin	–
113	0	DAINTY DAMSEL 18 R Woodhouse 4-10-7	W Dwan	–
114		FUNKY 205F F Jordan 4-10-7	P Carberry	–
115		MEADOW BLUE 70F Miss L Siddall 4-10-7	C Maude	–

7-4 Foundry Lane, 7-2 Prince Kinsky, 6-1 Cul De Sac, 8-1 First Light, 12-1 Landler, Troubled Man, 14-1 Current Mony, 20-1 others.

1.40 PRESTON AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,688: 2m 4f) (6)

201	2344	NORDIC BREEZE 8 (V,F,S) M Pipe 5-12-0	G Elliott (5)	107
202	34-2	MITHRAIC 42 (F) W Cunningham 5-11-0	S Durack (7)	111
203	424-	CATHERINE'S CHOICE 264 M Hammond 4-10-6	C Bonner (3)	110
204	215-	CARLISLE BANDITO'S 165 (F) J Berry 5-10-4	Miss P Robson (5)	115
205	F5F-	CIRCULATION 328 (F,G,S) D McCain 11-10-0	G Lake (7)	–
206	U0P-	NICKLE JOE 158 (D,F,G,S) M Tate 11-10-0	O McPhail (7)	–

15-8 Mithraic, 2-1 Nordic Breeze, 7-2 Carlisle Bandito's, 4-1 Catherine's Choice, 12-1 Circulation, 20-1 Nickle Joe.

2.10 GAMEKEEPERS HANDICAP CHASE

(£5,368: 2m) (5)

301	-33U	SPANISH LIGHT 5 (CD,F,S) Sir J Barlow Bt 8-12-0	P Niven	129
302	314-	MONYMAN 195 (BF,D,F,G) M Hammond 7-11-10	R Garritty	125
303	333-	BARNAGEERA BOY 234 (D,G,S) W Jenks 8-11-9	T Jenks	–
304	PS14	REGAL ROMPER 5 (BF,D,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 9-11-8	G F Ryan (5)	107
305	3111	SUAS LEAT 22 (D,F,G) J Jefferson 7-10-7	E Callaghan (3)	118

6-4 Suas Leat, 7-2 Monyman, 4-1 Regal Romper, 9-2 Spanish Light, 8-1 Barnageera Boy

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: F Jordan, 4 winners from 10 runners, 40.0%; J Fitzgerald, 13 from 47, 27.7%; G Richards, 26 from 102, 25.5%; J Old, 3 from 12, 25.0%; T Tate, 4 from 16, 25.0%.

JOCKEYS: E Callaghan, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; C Llewellyn, 13 from 52, 25.0%; A Maguire, 10 from 46, 21.7%; C Maude, 5 from 26, 19.2%; A Dobbin, 11 from 63, 17.5%.

2.40 GERARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,773: 2m) (8)

401	362-	PRIZEFIGHTER 175 (D,F) B Llewellyn 6-12-0	Mr J L Llewellyn	129
402	030-	CENTAUR EXPRESS 249 (D,G,S) A Streeter 5-11-11	T Eley	120
403	105-	QUANGO 263 (G) J Fitzgerald 5-11-2	P Carberry	130
404	165-	FEN TERRIER 195 (D,F,G,S) F Murtagh 5-10-13	A Dobbin	124
405	-003	I'M A DREAMER 15 (D,F,G) Miss Rowland 7-10-11	P Midgley (5)	126
406	44/1	THROWER 25 (G) S Brookshaw 6-10-10	C Maude	135
407	45-3	SAINT CIEL 25 (BF,CD,G,S) F Jordan 9-10-6	A Maguire	124
408	/16/	GENERAL'S ORDERS 630 (D,F,S) J Turner 6-10-0	J Supple	–

5-2 Thrower, 3-1 Quango, 5-1 Saint Ciel, 7-1 Prizefighter, Centaur Express, 10-1 Fen Terrier, I'm A Dreamer, 20-1 General's Orders.

3.10 BIRCHFIELD JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE

(3-Y-O, £2,913: 2m) (15)

501	13	LEVITICUS 21 (BF,G) T Tate 11-6	J Callaghan	111
502	23	BERYLLIUM 13 M Pipe 11-0	Mr G Elliott (5)	99
503		BO DANCER K Hogg 11-0	D Bentley	–
504	62	DUNSTON BILL 43 G Barnett 11-0	A Dobbin	90
505		FOREIGN RULE 19F J Jenkins 11-0	A Maguire	–
506	D	HITCHHIKER 25 R Woodhouse 11-0	W Dwan	–
507		IMPERIAL OR METRIC 22F J J O'Neill 11-0	R McGrath (5)	–
508		INGLEBOROUGH 14F D Moffatt 11-0	D J Moffatt	–
509	5	NORTHERN FLASH 23F J Haynes 11-0	D Parker	100
510	033	NORTHERN MAESTRO 31 Mrs M Reveley 11-0	P Niven	–
511		RUSSIAN ASPECT 125F M W Easterby 11-0	P Midgley (5)	–
512		SANDBAGGEDAGAIN 63F M W Easterby 11-0	P Carberry	–
513		JUKEBOX JIVE 120F M Hammond 10-9	R Garritty	–
514		LOCH-HURN LADY 12F K Hogg 10-9	M Foster	–
515		SILENT VALLEY 14F Miss L Siddall 10-9	S Wynne	–

9-4 Leviticus, 11-2 Sandbaggedagain, 13-2 Foreign Rule, 7-1 Russian Aspect, Jukebox Jive, 8-1 Beryllium, 10-1 others.

3.40 GLENGOYNE HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY NOVICES CHASE

(Qualifier: £3,701: 3m) (4)

601	190P	TWO FOR ONE 4 (B,D,F,G,S) Mrs L Russell 8-11-12	P Carberry	96
602	225-	ALASKAN HEIR 163 (V,BF,G,S) A Streeter 6-11-2	T Eley	100
603	252-	BAYLINE STAR 173 Miss H Knight 7-11-2	J Culloty	124
604	210-	THE PROMS 238 (S) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-2	C Llewellyn	–

10-11 The Proms, 5-4 Bayline Star, 14-1 Alaskan Heir, 16-1 Two For One

4.10 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,278: 2m) (16)

1	21-	BIG PERKS 281 (D,F) P Dalton 5-11-11	C Maude	–
2	1-	CASTLE CLEAR 242 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-11	P Niven	–
3	/31-	HURST FLYER 327 (D,F) F Murtagh 5-11-6	A Roche	–
4	43-	AMLWCH 160 J Berry 4-11-4	P Roberts (3)	–
5		AUSSIE BOB Mrs S Smith 5-11-4	G F Ryan (5)	–
6	1-	BRAMBLEHILL DUKE 248P (S) D Nicholson 5-11-4	A Maguire	–
7		BUCKALOON W M Brisbourne 5-11-4	J Culloty	–
8		CARUS J Jefferson 4-11-4	M Mello (7)	–
9		HILLESDEN D Nicholson 4-11-4	R Massey (3)	–
10	40-	JACK ROBBO 264 J Fitzgerald 5-11-4	P Carberry	–
11		SIKANDER A AZAM C Grant 4-11-4	C Llewellyn	–
12		SILVER HOWE D Moffatt 4-11-4	D J Moffatt	–
13		THEGREYDSS R Woodhouse 4-11-4	W Dwan	–
14	1/-	TIRLEY GALE 256P J Smith 5-11-4	W Marston	–
15		TRIX OF THE TRADE G Richards 4-11-4	A Dobbin	–
16	0-	BARTON LIL 179 S Brookshaw 5-10-13	S Wynne	–

3-1 Bramblehill Duke, 9-2 Castle Clear, 7-1 Hillesden, 8-1 Big Perks, 10-1 Hurst Flyer, Trix Of The Trade, 12-1 Carus, Jack Robbo, 14-1 others.

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER

1.20 Bamapour. 1.50 Sam Rockett. 2.20 See More Business. 2.50 Dolce Notte. 3.20 Dr Leunt. 3.50 Tidal Force. 4.20 St Mellion Stream.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

1.20 WEST COUNTRY FESTIVAL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

(£2,840: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

1	1143	BAMAPOUR 15 (B,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-12-0	A P McCoy
2	13-3	TIGHT FIST 14 (CD,F,S) Miss H Knight 7-11-1	J F Titley
3	-024	WIXOE WONDER 8 (B,G) M Bradstock 7-11-1	M A Fitzgerald
4	U233	PAIR OF JACKS 19 (B,D,F,G) P Hobbs 7-11-0	R Dunwoody
5	655-	WONDERFULL POLLY 185 (D,G) P Nicholls 9-10-11	L Cummins (5)
6	04U-	HIGH MOOD 195 T George 7-10-4	D J Kavanagh (5)
7	6-2U	REFLEX HAMMER 5 J Upson 6-10-3	R Supple
8	-633	ALL CLEAR 20 (D,G,S) R Alner 6-10-0	P Holley
9	0-2P	UP THE TEMPO 44 P Farrell 8-10-0	G Tormey
10	6-53	POOH STICK 15 R Frost 7-10-0	J Frost

5-2 Bamapour, 7-2 Tight Fist, 6-1 Reflex Hammer, 8-1 Wixoe Wonder, Pair Of Jacks, Wonderfull Polly, 10-1 All Clear, 14-1 others.

1.50 J C MILTON SHE'S FINALLY GONE HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,253: 2m 1f) (9)

1	2114	SAM ROCKETT 37 (CD,F,G) M Pipe 4-11-10	A P McCoy
2	0/23	SPORT OF FOOLS 20 (CD,G,S) S Cole 8-11-5	G Supple (5)
3	/05/	PORRIDGE HILL 868 J Batchelor 7-11-0	S Fox
4	F213	GAME DILEMMA 23 (D,F,G) J Mullins 6-10-11	S Curran
5	80-3	DOCKLANDS COURIER 18 R Phillips 5-10-9	I Lawrence
6	63-1	REACH THE CLOUDS 16 (D,G) J Upson 5-10-9	R Supple
7	/U4-	PRINCE DE BERRY 342 G Ham 6-10-3	P Holley
8	5P-0	MISTRESS ROSIE 14 (F,S) M Hill 10-10-0	C Webb (5)
9	/PP-	DANTE'S RUBICON 252 N Ayliffe 6-10-0	R Greene

5-2 Sam Rockett, 3-1 Sport Of Fools, 7-2 Reach The Clouds, 6-1 Game Dilemma, 7-1 Docklands Courier, 10-1 Prince de Berry, 25-1 Mistress Rosie, 33-1 others.

2.20 SPA-TRANS HANDICAP CHASE

(£6,801: 3m 2f 110yd) (5)

1	22F-	SEE MORE BUSINESS 256 (G,S) P Nicholls 7-11-10	T J Murphy
2	11P-	GENERAL CRACK 340 (F,G,S) P Nicholls 8-10-7	Mr J Tizzard (5)
3	20-5	EVANGELICA 32 (CD,F,S) M Pipe 7-10-0	A P McCoy
4	11P-	FLOW 285 (CD,F,S) R Buckler 8-10-0	B Powell
5	113-	MAPLE DANCER 424 (F,G,S) A Hobbs 11-10-0	G Shenkin (7)

4-7 See More Business, 7-2 General Crack, 7-1 Evangelica, 12-1 Flow, 20-1 Maple Dancer.

2.50 ROGERS OF PLYMOUTH NOVICES HURDLE

(£2,243: 3m 3f) (11)

1	/P-1	RIVER CHALLENGE 14 (G) J Upson 6-11-3	R Supple
2	P14U	TOMMY COOPER 14 (F) Mrs B Waring 6-11-3	E Byrne
3	4-12	DOLCE NOTTE 7 (F) M Pipe 7-10-12	A P McCoy
4	U/P/	BOY BUSTER 991 F Gray 8-10-10	B Powell
5	4013	ELITE GOVERNOR 8 (F,G) N Lampard 6-10-10	C Webb (5)
6	/4P-	LAUREN'S TREASURE 250 Mrs S Williams 6-10-10	B Fenton
7	243-	ROYAL POT BLACK 224 P Hobbs 6-10-10	R Dunwoody
8	P/F-	UPTON GALE 270P W Dennis 7-10-10	Mr T Dennis (7)
9	006-	ZAGGY LANE 261 Mrs R Henderson 5-10-10	N Rossiter (7)
10	PP-4	SULA'S DREAM 30 G Ham 8-10-5	S Burrough
11	P-20	VIA DEL QUATRO 13 (S) J Mullins 5-10-5	T J Murphy

7-4 River Challenge, 2-1 Dolce Notte, 4-1 Royal Pot Black, 8-1 Elite Governor, 16-1 Tommy Cooper, 25-1 Lauren's Treasure, Via Del Quatro, 33-1 others.

3.20 GEOFFREY BOND NOVICES CHASE

(£6,775: 3m 2f 110yd) (4)

1	50-1	DR LEUNT 14 (G,S) P Hobbs 6-11-5	R Dunwoody
2	1121	GALATASORI JANE 7 (D,F,G) P Nicholls 7-11-0	A P McCoy
3	111-	STRONG CHAIRMAN 193P (F,G) P Nicholls 6-11-0	T J Murphy
4	F5-0	BLAZING MIRACLE 14 Mrs R Henderson 5-10-7	D Salter

4-5 Dr Leunt, 13-8 Strong Chairman, 6-1 Galatasori Jane, 50-1 Blazing Miracle

3.50 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE

(£5,524: 2m 6f) (5)

1	11-3	DIWALI DANCER 147 (BF,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-13	A P McCoy
2	033-	INFLUENCE PEDLER 6F (BF,G) J Old 4-11-5	M A Fitzgerald
3	124-	ST VILLE 158 (C,D,F,G,S) R Buckler 11-10-13	J Mcdermott (7)
4	-R11	TIDAL FORCE 15 (F,G) P Hobbs 6-10-7	R Dunwoody
5	0-06	ROSIE-B 20 (CD,G) L Waring 7-10-0	M Griffiths (7)

5-4 Tidal Force, 2-1 Diwali Dancer, 3-1 Influence Pedler, 7-1 St Ville, 20-1 Rosie-B

4.20 J C MILTON I'VE FOUND LOVE AT HIGHBURY OPEN NH FLAT RACE

(£1,214: 2m 1f) (6)

1	55-	COSY RIDE 291 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4	J Goldstein (7)
2		EASTDON GOLD DUST A Hobbs 4-11-4	M A Fitzgerald
3		ORSWELLTHATENSWELL P Hobbs 5-11-4	R Dunwoody
4		SPORTING CHANCE R Frost 5-11-4	J Frost
5		ST MELLION STREAM M Pipe 5-11-4	A P McCoy
6		TUDOR BLONDE P Purdy 6-10-13	S Burrough

1-2 St Mellion Stream, 4-1 Orswellthatenswell, 5-1 Cosy Ride, 20-1 Sporting Chance, 25-1 Eastdon Gold Dust, 50-1 Tudor Blonde

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Phillips, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; P Hobbs, 53 from 174, 30.5%; J Old, 9 from 32, 28.1%; M Pipe, 101 from 379, 26.6%; P Nicholls, 36 from 142, 25.4%

JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody, 62 winners from 191 rides, 32.5%; A P McCoy 53 from 166, 31.9%; C Webb, 4 from 16, 25.0%; T J Murphy 7 from 37, 18.9%; G Tormey, 7 from 38, 18.4%

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Redcar

Going: good, good to firm in places

1.30 (7f) 1, Gypsy Passion (J Fortune, 14-1); 2, Dog Watch (3-1); 3, Free Option (100-30). Knsamba 9-4 fav. 18 ran. 2l, nk. M Johnston. Tote: £21.10; £3.40, £1.80, £1.40. DF: £37.10. Trio: £21.20. CSF: £53.31

2.00 (1m) 1, Baasian (T Williams, 5-1 fav); 2, Pas De Memoires (11-1); 3, Ocean Line (14-1); 4, Marske Machine (8-1). 27 ran. Sh hd, 4l. J Eyre. Tote: £4.80; £1.40, £2.90, £8.30, £2.50. DF: £25.80. Trio: £578.00. CSF: £57.27. Tricast: £737.07.

2.30 (6f) 1, Primo Lara (T Quinn, 10-1); 2, Double Splendour (12-1); 3, Always Alight (12-1); 4, Cadeaux Cher (25-1). Tiler 5-1 fav. 25 ran. ¾l, 1l. P Harris. Tote: £11.00; £2.30, £4.80, £4.10, £11.10. DF: £222.70. Trio: £2,032.80. CSF: £123.68. Tricast: £1,423.46.

3.00 (1m 3f) 1, Fantail (D Biggs, 7-1); 2, Night Mirage (15-2); 3, Asoline (12-1); 4, Pratlesh (16-1). Aleyib 9-2 fav. 17 ran. 3l, 1¾l. M Tompkins. Tote: £10.70; £2.30, £2.40, £2.90, £5.00. DF: £51.30. Trio: £244.90. CSF: £56.40. Tricast: £599.33.

3.30 (5f) 1, Ataan (T G McLaughlin, 4-1); 2, Nobalino (5-1); 3, Bajan Rose (3-1). Just Bob 11-4 fav. 8 ran. 3l, 1¼l. R Marvin. Tote: £3.60; £2.10, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £11.00. CSF: £21.00.

4.00 (1m 2f) 1, Jedi Knight (L Charnock, 7-1); 2, Essayeffsee (9-2 fav); 3, Classic Find (8-1); 4, Newbridge Boy (14-1). 17 ran. Nk, ½l. M W Easterby. Tote: £6.70; £1.90, £1.60, £2.60, £4.30. DF: £12.80. Trio: £48.90. CSF: £38.95. Tricast: £252.63.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £68,612.02 carried forward to Haydock Park today).

Placepot: £223.50.

Quadpot: £70.20.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: KILMINGTON
(2.00 Kempton Park)
Next best: Quango
(2.40 Haydock Park)

Exeter

Going: good to soft

1.20 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, King Of The Dawn (C Llewellyn, 9-2); 2, Macmorris (4-1); 3, Fill The Bill (3-1 jt-fav). Village King 3-1 jt-fav. 11 ran. 3l, 4l. N Mitchell. Tote: £5.60; £1.90, £1.80, £1.50. DF: £20.90. Trio: £22.90. CSF: £22.36.

1.50 (2m 3f hdle) 1, The Brewer (R Bellamy, evens fav); 2, Walter's Destiny (7-2); 3, Queen Of The Suir (50-1). 6 ran. 8l, dist. J Tuck. Tote: £1.70; £1.40, £2.40. DF: £3.90. CSF: £4.37.

2.20 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Viking Flagship (R Johnson, 9-1); 2, Mulligan (2-1); 3, Gales Cavalier (7-2). Ask Tom 7-4 fav. 6 ran. 5l, dist. D Nicholson. Tote: £9.80; £2.30, £2.00. DF: £11.50. CSF: £26.31.

2.50 (2m 6f 110yd ch) 1, Abavard (J Frost, 5-1); 2, Pongo Waring (7-2); 3, Shining Light (3-1 fav). 6 ran. 5l, 12l. R Frost. Tote: £7.70; £3.10, £2.20. DF: £13.30. CSF: £19.75.

3.20 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Ground Nut (R Dunwoody, 7-1); 2, Ambleside (9-2); 3, Zabadi (10-11 fav). 8 ran. NR: Grosvenor Heath. 8l, 4l. R Buckler. Tote: £7.30; £3.50, £2.10. DF: £8.90. CSF: £32.32.

3.50 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Handson (D Salter, 5-2); 2, Va Utu (3-1); 3, Dictum (15-8 fav). 6 ran. 1¾l, dist. B Millman. Tote: £2.90; £1.40, £1.80. DF: £4.70. CSF: £8.33.

4.20 (2m 1f 110yd flat) 1, Potter Again (R Massey, 9-4 fav); 2, Daisy (9-2); 3, Baby Lira (7-1). 14 ran. NR: Indian Legend. 7l, 2½l. D Nicholson. Tote: £3.50; £1.20, £1.80, £3.70. DF: £8.60. Trio: £31.00. CSF: £10.48.

Placepot: £142.80.

Quadpot: £41.40.

Warwick

Going: firm, good to firm in places

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, Gray Pastel (A P McCoy, 1-3 fav); 2, Blue Cheese (8-1); 3, Lines-G (7-1). 5 ran. 1¾l, ½l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £1.50. DF: £2.80. CSF: £3.71.

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Auburn Boy (A P McCoy, 7-1); 2, Albemine (7-2); 3, Fijon (5-1). Brambles Way 5-4 fav. 10 ran. NR: My Billy Boy. 2l, 4l. I Williams. Tote: £8.20; £3.20, £1.80, £1.10. DF: £9.50. Trio: £13.70. CSF: £28.64.

2.40 (3m 2f ch) 1, Gower-Slave (W Marston, 11-4); 2, Little Tincture (evens fav). 5 ran. 8l. P Bowen. Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £1.10. DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.92.

3.10 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Royal Action (J Osborne, 8-13 fav); 2, Maizamet (11-8); 3, Rocky's Profiles (25-1). 3 ran. NR: Ela-Ment. 16l, dist. O Sherwood. Tote: £1.50. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.70

3.40 (3m 2f ch) 1, Commanche Creek (A P McCoy, 8-13 fav); 2, What Is The Plan (7-2). 3 ran. Sh hd. M Pipe. Tote: £1.40. DF: £2.10. CSF: £2.77.

4.10 (2m hdle) 1, Goldingo (Mr S Durack, 11-8 fav); 2, Robert's Toy (5-2); 3, Squire's Occasion (13-8). 3 ran. 2½l, hd. C Price. Tote: £2.60. DF: £2.80. CSF: £4.32.

Placepot: £22.30. Quadpot: £4.90.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Haydock Park: 3.40 Two For One.

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هكذا من الأصل

Feyenoord fearful as Ferguson's free-scoring team aims to continue European adventure

United put accent on fluency in Dutch test

From Oliver Holt, football correspondent in Rotterdam

THEY know here, in the heartland of Dutch football, that Manchester United have scored 13 goals in their past two games. They know that their visitors are on a hot streak and, when the English champions landed here yesterday lunchtime, ready for their European Cup Champions' League tie against Feyenoord tonight, the home fans could have been forgiven for sniffing the air and smelling the acrid scent of scorched earth.

United are leaving a trail of woe and destruction behind them as they go, rampaging through the FA Carling Premiership and carrying all before them in Europe, too. The way things are going, opposing coaches will soon be demanding danger money to play Alex Ferguson's team: first Arie Haan, the Feyenoord coach, lost his job in the wake of his side's 2-1 defeat at Old Trafford a fortnight ago, then David Pleat paid the penalty for Sheffield Wednesday's 6-1 humiliation at Old Trafford on Saturday.

GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	3	3	0	0	8	3	9
Juventus	3	2	0	1	8	4	6
Feyenoord	3	1	0	2	4	7	3
Kosice	3	0	0	3	0	6	0

RESULTS: FC Kosice 0 Manchester United 3, Juventus 5 Feyenoord 1; Feyenoord 2 FC Kosice 0; Manchester United 3 Juventus 2; Manchester United 2 Feyenoord 1, FC Kosice 0 Juventus 1

MATCHES TO COME: Today: Feyenoord v Manchester United; Juventus v FC Kosice. Nov 26: Feyenoord v Juventus. Nov 27: Manchester United v FC Kosice. Dec 10: FC Kosice v Feyenoord: Juventus v Manchester United

On the short flight from Manchester yesterday, the players were pictures of relaxation and quiet but unshakeable confidence. When they arrived at their hotel on the outskirts of the city, the same hotel that United used before they beat Barcelona in the 1991 Cup Winners' Cup final here, all the talk was of the great strides that they have made in their approach to the Champions' League since last season.

Peter Schmeichel, the United goalkeeper and captain, gave an eloquent explanation of how attitudes have changed. He even suggested that the narrow margin of United's victory against Feyenoord last month had spurred the team to their subsequent superlative performances against Barnsley and Wednesday.

"We have played games this season where we did not take all our chances," Schmeichel said. "I thought the Feyenoord match was one where we should have done much better and we went into the Barnsley game saying to ourselves that what we did in that match was not right. Then we went out and scored seven goals. It was a good response.

"We have all really enjoyed the Champions' League this season. We realise we have got a chance of winning it. We are more determined now. We also know we did not do as well as we should have done last year, but we learnt a lot from that and that is evident from the way we are playing. We feel we have found a way to play these games. We have found the necessary patience and discipline. We have got that recipe right now."

Feyenoord, by contrast, seem to be struggling with a mix of unpalatable ingredients. Their loss at Old Trafford was followed by a 4-0 walloping at the hands of their great rivals, Ajax, which was the last straw for Haan. Geert Meijer, his assistant, was given temporary control, but some reports suggest that Feyenoord are about to appoint Leo Beenhakker, the former Real Madrid coach, as Haan's full-time successor.

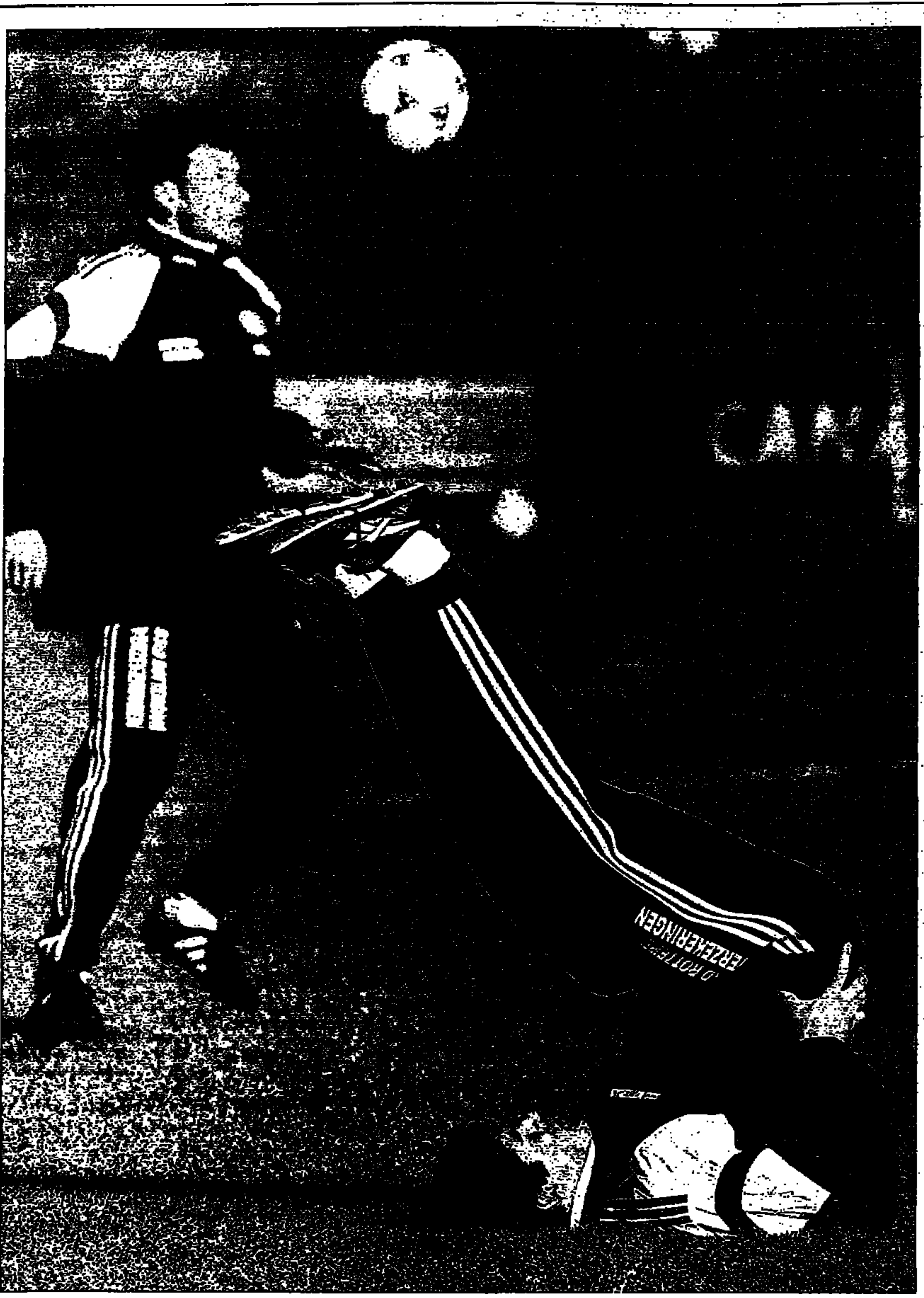
United should be too strong for the Dutch and a win in the De Kuip Stadium, coupled with the formality of victory over FC Kosice in a fortnight, is almost certain to see United through to the quarter-finals.

"We have got off to a dream start," Ferguson said. "We have now got to aim to win the group. If we do that, that is it. Everyone has a chance in football and so do Feyenoord tomorrow. I have seen some funny results in my life and that won't stop, but hopefully there won't be one here."

FEYENOORD (probable; 5-3-2): J Dudek — U van Gobbel, K van Wonderen, F Picun, B Schuiteman, P Graff — P Bosvelt, J P van Gastel, G van Bronckhorst — J Cruz, D Connolly.

MANCHESTER UNITED (probable: 4-4-2): P Schmeichel — G Neville, G Pallister, H Berg, D Irwin — D Beckham, N Butt, P Scholes, R Giggs — A Cole, E Sheringham

Referee: S Puhl (Hungary).



Vos, left, and Cruz put their back into training as Feyenoord prepare for their Champions' League match tonight

Parma pledge to attack in Dortmund

BORUSSIA Dortmund, the defending European champions, who have won only three matches out of 13 in the Bundesliga this season, will hope to recapture at least some of last season's form when they entertain Parma in tonight's European Cup Champions' League match, having lost 1-0 in Italy a fortnight ago.

A win would take the Germans to the top of group A, the only one in which the top two clubs play each other tonight. Carlo Ancelotti, the Parma coach, has picked an attacking side, hoping to take advantage of the absence of several key Borussia defenders. Ancelotti said Saturday's 1-0 league defeat by Internazionale, which dropped Parma to third place in Serie A, was a "normal episode against a powerful opponent". He added: "Our teamwork should prevail."

Nevio Scala, the former Parma coach who is now in charge at Dortmund, will be without the injured Matthias Sammer, Jürgen Kohler and Stephane Chapuisat. "If you want to visit the Dortmund team, you have to drive to the hospital," *Gazzetta dello Sport* said recently. "We're not dead. We'll play a great game," Scala promised on behalf of his patched-up side.

In group D, Real Madrid, who have nine points after three matches, will be without Roberto Carlos, who is suspended, against Olympiakos. The Spaniards beat the Greeks 5-1 two weeks ago.

Bayern Munich, who lead group E, are expecting tough opposition from Paris Saint-Germain, who have won only one of three games. "For Paris, it's the last chance, they will try to explode," Thomas Helmer, the Bayern captain, said.

Dalglish forced to put trust in Tomasson

By David Maddock

IT MIGHT seem heretical to suggest it, but Kenny Dalglish is an amusing, affable character. Outside a small circle of friends, however, it is a closely guarded secret.

The Newcastle United manager has always suffered from a negative image in the media, mostly because he cannot suppress a natural, suspicious instinct. His press conferences can be torture. Yet, for all that, Dalglish has none of the abrasiveness of, for example, Alex Ferguson. When Ferguson is irked, the whole world knows it. With Dalglish, it is barely detectable, beyond, perhaps, a frostier edge to his taut utterances.

Yesterday, looking forward to Newcastle's European Cup Champions' League contest with PSV Eindhoven tonight, he was unusually instructive. Gone was the Siberian silence, replaced by a rare passion in his condemnation of what he perceives as an unjust dismissal of his side's capabilities.

He talked of "a defeatist attitude that hangs around the club like a bad smell". The odour, you will not be surprised to hear, was generated by the media. There has been a disparaging attitude towards his side, he said, despite a reasonable start in the FA Carling Premiership and a better than expected showing in the Champions' League.

"We have had trying circumstances and yet performed with pride in adversity," he said. "Look at our results and then say that we are not producing. We beat Barcelona and they proved when they won 3-2 at Real Madrid the other night that they are indisputably a great side. They are seven points clear in Spain and that says it all. We drew in Kiev, and Dynamo beat Barcelona 3-0. I think that result was far better than we got the credit for.

"We did lose against PSV, but they are a very good side, too. We came away from Holland with people talking as if they were an easy team to play, but they are a very dangerous side and people who say otherwise are just trying to distort our situation."

Yet, for all his passion, there is a pessimism seeping into even the most ardent of Newcastle supporters. Dalglish is right to point to important results in Europe and the Premiership, but most were achieved with the help if Faustino Asprilla. Without him, the team is impotent. The loss of Alan Shearer was a bad enough blow, but Asprilla could lead the line capably alone. Without him, there is no threat to leading European defences. Tonight, Dalglish will be without the suspended David Batty and Robert Lee, as well as Ian Rush, Newcastle's one remaining striker, who has undergone a cartilage operation. Add to that doubts about Gillespie, Barton and Pistone and Newcastle's squad is severely stretched.

Much responsibility now falls on the shoulders of Jon Dahl Tomasson, the young Dane who scored his first goal for the club on Saturday. That much, at least, was a relief. "I have been under pressure in the last couple of weeks, but not just from the lack of a goal," Tomasson said yesterday. "I have been trying to adjust to a new position as well. I have always played in midfield before and now I am playing with my back to goal. But I believe in myself in front of goal and I will always give my all."

GROUP C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Kiev	3	2	1	0	8	3	7
Newcastle Utd	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
PSV Eindhoven	3	1	1	1	4	5	4
Barcelona	3	0	1	2	4	8	1

RESULTS: PSV Eindhoven 1 Dynamo Kiev 3; Newcastle 3 Barcelona 2; Barcelona 2 PSV Eindhoven 2: Dynamo Kiev 2 Newcastle 2; Dynamo Kiev 3 Barcelona 0; PSV Eindhoven 1 Newcastle 0.

MATCHES TO COME: Today: Barcelona v Dynamo Kiev; Newcastle v PSV Eindhoven. Nov 26: Barcelona v Newcastle. Nov 27: Dynamo Kiev v PSV Eindhoven. Dec 10: PSV Eindhoven v Barcelona: Newcastle v Dynamo Kiev.

Eindhoven have their own injury worries, with Valckx and De Bilde doubtful, but Dalglish may prove prophetic in his assertion that PSV are a better side than people have given them credit for. It is hard to imagine where Newcastle will conjour a goal from. Dalglish can not be blamed for the injuries to Rush and Asprilla, but with Shearer injured, should he have sold Ferdinand and Beardsley?

Risking the wrath of Dalglish further, it has to be said that qualification for the quarter-finals is an unlikely prospect, but, as Tomasson said, the team's supporters can almost win a game by themselves and those who witnessed the destruction of Barcelona for 60 magical minutes will not dare to dismiss Newcastle's chances lightly.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (probable, 4-4-2): S Given — S Watson, D Peacock, P Albert, J Beresford — W Barton, T Ketsbaia, J Barnes, D Hamilton — K Gillespie, J D Tomasson.

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CORRECT SCORE			DOUBLE RESULT		
FEYENOORD	SCORE TO BE	MAN. UTD.	H/TIME	F/TIME	
7/1	1-0	5/1	FEYENOORD	FEYENOORD	9/2
11/1	2-0	7/1	FEYENOORD	DRAW	14/1
11/1	2-1	7/1	FEYENOORD	MAN. UTD.	25/1
33/1	3-0	14/1	DRAW	FEYENOORD	13/2
33/1	3-1	16/1	DRAW	DRAW	9/2
33/1	3-2	33/1	DRAW	MAN. UTD.	9/2
6/1	0-0	6/1	MAN. UTD.	FEYENOORD	33/1
5/1	1-1	5/1	MAN. UTD.	DRAW	14/1
20/1	2-2	20/1	MAN. UTD.	MAN. UTD.	2/1

Other scores on request. Bets void if 2nd half not started.

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Rioch and Hamilton eye vacancy at Wednesday

By Our Sports Staff

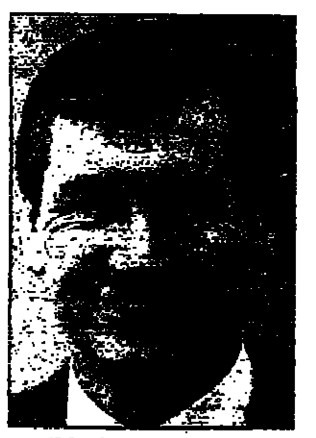
BRUCE RIOCH, the former Arsenal manager, and Bryan Hamilton, recently dismissed by Northern Ireland, yesterday expressed an interest in the managerial vacancy at Sheffield Wednesday.

Rioch, who managed Middlesbrough, Millwall and Bolton Wanderers before spending a year at Highbury, until the arrival of Arsène Wenger 14 months ago, said: "I have heard nothing at all from Sheffield Wednesday, but I am interested in going back into management at some stage if the job and the people are right. It would have to be at a club that's got the opportunity and the ambition to be successful."

Hamilton, 50, formerly in charge at Tranmere Rovers, Wigan Athletic and Leicester City — where he departed to make way for Pleat in 1987 — also said that he was keen to get back into the game.

"I've got to be interested," Hamilton said. "I'm in a position where I'm looking for work. Having lost my job with Northern Ireland, it's made me determined to work at the highest level, but I don't know what the situation is with Wednesday and whether they are inviting applications, although I would hope, bearing in mind I have a lot of experience, I would be one of those under consideration."

Tony Hale, the West Bromwich Albion chairman, was surprised at speculation linking his manager, Ray Harford, with the job because Wednesday have yet to show an interest. Harford is believed to be the front-runner to succeed Pleat, whose 29-month reign at Hillsborough ended after Wednesday's 6-1 defeat away to Manchester United consigned them to the the foot of the FA Carling Premiership.



Rioch: opportunity

Hale, Harford and the West Bromwich chief executive, John Wile, have all dismissed the conjecture, even though the manager is open to offers because he has yet to sign a contract.

Hale said: "I believe Wednesday want a quick appointment and I think if they were interested we would have heard by now, but there's been nothing. Ray Harford is at the club doing his normal duties and he seems to be happy with us. Anyway, when I mentioned the speculation to him, he just laughed."

Hale's dismissive comments were strengthened by the fact that David Richards, the Wednesday chairman, and the club secretary, Graham Mackrell, were in London yesterday, albeit on business unrelated to football.

Hale added: "Obviously, no manager is safe whether he has signed a contract or not, but Ray has got more and more involved with West Brom over the past few months he has been at The Hawthorns. His heart seems to be in the club. Why would he want to join Sheffield Wednesday when he is getting things right with Albion?"

MONDAY'S LATE RESULTS

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: West Ham United 2 Crystal Palace 2 (match abandoned after 66min — floodlight failure).

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester 2 St Leonards 0. Cup Preliminary round, first leg: Dartford 3 Fisher 5; Newport AFC 3 Witney 1.

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First-round replay: RTM Newcastle 0 Kidsgrove 1.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 5 Swindon 2; Oxford United 1 Millwall 0.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE CUP: Group five: Barnsley 1 York 1.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Invitation Cup: Oldbury 1 Ibstock Welfare 3.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Rotherham 0 Bury 1; Enfield 5 Stevenage 1.

UEFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group eight: Northern Ireland 1 Croatia 2.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Merida 1 Valencia 0.

ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Argentinos Juniors 3 Estudiantes 2.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Staffordshire 3 Worcestershire 2: Midlands divisional Trophy: Under-13: First round: Wolverhampton 0 Brierley Hill and Dudley 4. Boodle and Dunthorne Cup: Haileybury 1 Eton 3.

WOMEN'S FA CUP: Third-round draw: Truro City or Swindon Spitfires v Berry Town; Binfield v Southampton; Cardiff County v Portsmouth; Bloxwich Town v Loughborough Students or Highfield Rangers; Canary Racers v Arnold Town; Coventry City v Birmingham City; Aston Villa v Wolverhampton Wanderers; Ilkeston Town v Derby County; Huddersfield Town v Leeds City; Liverpool Feds v Sheffield Wednesday, Blyth Spartan Kestrels v Garswood Saints: Oldham v Preston North End; Warrington Grange v Newcastle Town; Stockport v Blackburn Rovers; Wembley Mill Hill v Whitehawk; Brighton or Hampton v Langford or Chelmsford; Three Bridges v Watford and Evergreen; Queen's Park Rangers v Wimbledon; Leyton Orient v Reading Royals; Fulham v Tottenham Hotspur; West Ham United v Charlton or Abbey Rangers; Hendon or Hackney v St Georges (Eltham) or Surbiton.

☐ Ties to be played on November 30.

Swindon cast net for goalkeeper

By Russell Kempson

SWINDON Town face the prospect of playing against Queens Park Rangers at the County Ground tonight without a recognised goalkeeper. Steve McMahon, the Swindon manager, is even considering using an outfield player in goal for the Nationwide League first division match.

Fraser Digby and Frank Talia, Swindon's senior goalkeepers, are unable to play because of injury. Digby has damaged chest muscles and Talia has knee problems. Steve Mildenhall, who deputised in the 1-0 victory against Portsmouth at Fratton Park last Friday, sustained a groin injury during the game and is also unfit.

Although McMahon asked the Football League for an extension to the deadline of noon yesterday to enable him to bring in a goalkeeper on loan, his request was declined. "We had a couple of players in the pipeline, but the League would not extend the deadline," McMahon said. "Quite honestly, I'm very disappointed with their lack of co-operation. In fact, we are in the process of writing a letter of complaint to them."

Swindon's only available goalkeeper is Anthony Betterton, 17, who plays for the club's youth team. McMahon does not want to risk him but is running out of options. "I haven't a clue what I'm going to do," he said.

The 1998 World Cup final on July 12 will kick-off at 9pm, the French organising committee announced yesterday. The opening game on June 10 will kick-off at 5.30pm, while all ten World Cup stadiums will have at least one evening match apart, from Bordeaux, for reasons of television camera angles in the setting sun. Each stadium will also have one early-afternoon match.

First-round matches will kick-off at 2.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm and 9pm. Second round and quarter-final matches will start at either 4.30pm or 9pm. The semi-finals and final will start at 9pm.

However, in order to optimise television audiences in other time zones, Fifa, the world governing body, may make adjustments and exact kick-off times for the 48 first-round matches will only be announced at the World Cup draw in Marseilles on December 4. The late starts contrast with USA 94, where many matches kicked off at midday.

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SQUASH

Walker's revival bodes well for team

From Colin McQuillan in Kuala Lumpur

ENGLAND'S *standing for* the defence next week of the world team championship rose a few points here yesterday when their captain, Chris Walker, of Essex, halted a personal slump by defeating Paul Johnson, of Kent, 12-15, 15-10, 15-6, 15-7 in a 56-minute first-round match of the World Open championship.

Walker, a 30-year-old with a penchant for flamboyant strokeplay, has lost in every *significant* first round since reaching the last 16 of the Alahram International in *June. For a time yesterday,* it seemed that Johnson, a fellow left-hander and a potential *replacement for England* next week, might extend the barren run to six, but the presence of Neil Harvey, an England selector, in Walker's corner seemed to relax the *team captain enough for him* to rediscover the athletic volleying that is the foundation *of his game.*

Harvey's prime responsibility this week is to his *personal protégé,* Peter Nicol, another left-hander but of Scottish descent, who started *yesterday* with a crisp 32-minute 15-7, 15-8, 15-7 win over Stephen Meads.

The day was, in *fact,* a British *tour de force* in the bottom half of a World Open draw that, for the first time in 21 years, is not to be defended by the reigning champion — in this case, Jansher Khan, of Pakistan.

Two Welshmen, Alex Gough and David Evans, a qualifier, went through to the second round and Walker was joined by Simon Parke, the England No1, Mark Cairns, the British champion, and Mark Chaloner. Only the No5 seed, Ahmed Barada, of Egypt, broke the impressive string of British successes by *defeating Tony Hands in* an hour-long, four-game tussle.

Today's session of play features the top half of the first-round draw, with Del *Harris and Peter Marshall* leading a five-strong contingent from Britain.

RUGBY UNION: SPONSOR TO SIGN THREE-YEAR DEAL AS ITV CONFIRMS PLAN TO SCREEN ENGLAND

Five nations countries bank £15m

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

WHILE rugby's leading clubs are staring at a sizeable deficit on this season's trading, the sport as a whole remains the recipient of considerable commercial interest. *Today, ITV* will confirm its plans for the broadcasting of England internationals *this season* — albeit delayed transmissions — and tomorrow the five nations' championship will become sponsored for the first time.

It is expected that Lloyds TSB will announce support worth £15 million for the championship over the next three years, a sum that will be divided equally between the five countries. After the temporary rift last year between England and *the other three* home unions, the agreement will go a long way towards healing *relationships* and, possibly, some bruised egos.

It will come, however, at the cost of some of the game's oldest friends: the Royal Bank of Scotland has supported internationals at Murrayfield since 1982 and the introduction of Lloyds may also conclude the arrangements of two other financial institutions, Irish Permanent and Société Générale, with Ireland and France respectively.

Yet the wave of new money coming into the game — England alone have reached accords this season with Carlsberg Tetley and Nike — will give other potential investors confidence, a feeling that will bolster the cash-strapped Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs as they try to come to terms with the demands of professionalism. Saracens, for example, believe that interest is such that they will break even next season, despite an adverse balance sheet for the past financial year of £2.2 million and a likely deficit this year of around £1 million.

Saracens, second in the Premiership, have just published their first consolidated *accounts, which demonstrate* the leap ambitious clubs have had to take in expenditure. Nigel *Wray's initial* investment of £2.5 million when he purchased the club has received *a further £1 million,* but Saracens' own projections, based on gate receipts at *Watford of no more than* 5,500, suggest that they will stop "bleeding money" — the phrase of Mike Smith, their chief executive — by 1999.

"We see a *future* in the game," Smith said. "Corporate revenue has increased by *136 per cent on last year, with* over £1 million coming in, and people are already buying *hospitality boxes* at *Watford* for next season." Admittedly, Saracens started at a lower base *than* nearly all *their* competitors in the first division — hence, for example, the expenditure of £800,000 on last season at Enfield, which ultimately proved fruitless.

Yet, as an example, they cite the difference in crowd figures *for their most recent* opponents, Bristol: at their old Bramley Road headquarters *in 1995-96, they drew 600;* at Enfield, they attracted nearly 1,600 and last weekend they *pulled in 4,200. Though the* attendance figures themselves are relatively small, they represent a huge percentage increase which is reflected in season-ticket sales, too.

They plan to launch before the end of the year a £200,000 development scheme that is aimed at taking rugby into the Watford community and using their star players in a "lifestyle" campaign: international players like Philippe Sella, Francois Pienaar and Richard Hill will go into schools and clubs to bear to youngsters the positive messages of sport.

The wage bill for such players — Saracens employed 86 salaried staff, players, coaches and administrators during 1996-97 — amounted to £1.58 million last year, but Smith contends that the club is not paying inflated wages, adding: "It is the only business I have been involved in where I have to look after my competitors." That is to say, the first division clubs need to keep each other afloat to *ensure* a viable competition.

At the bottom of the division, Bristol are no nearer *securing their financial future* after Monday's annual meeting. Shareholders agreed to *remove* a clause prohibiting one individual holding more than a 24 per cent stake in the *club and the directors* are talking to two firms about possible investment, while *contemplating the sale land* used by their mini and junior teams.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Lomu is a menacing sight as he steps up the pace in the first training session of the All Blacks' tour yesterday

England promise to stand by Stimpson

ENGLAND'S management hinted yesterday that Newcastle's decision to put *Tim Stimpson on the transfer* list will *not* harm his prospects of playing full back in the forthcoming series of internationals *against the southern-hemisphere countries.* "It is a personal issue between him and the club, but it won't affect his *position with England,*" a *spokesman* said.

Nevertheless, if Stimpson is not play*ing first-team rugby, it will hardly help* his prospects. He has first to indicate his recovery from a thigh injury before the XV to play Australia at Twickenham on November 15 is confirmed, probably next *Monday, with* Newcastle *due to play* Castres on Sunday in the quarter-finals of the European Conference.

Alex King, the Wasps fly half, who is also recovering from injury, is determined to press his claims for a first start *for England against* Australia. King, 22, has not played since suffering a minor cartilage tear in the home league defeat *by Saracens 2½ weeks ago, but he is* confident that he will be fit to return for the Heineken Cup quarter-final against Brive, the holders, at Loftus Road on Sunday.

"The *injury is responding* well *to* treatment. I have the confidence in my own mind that it will be all right and the *mental side can be as important as* anything," he said.

Louis Luyt, president of the South *African Rugby Football Union,* withstood a challenge from Keith Parkinson, of Natal, and Mluleki George, of Border, *at the union's annual meeting yesterday* and will remain in office for a further two years.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Rusedski fights infection

■ **TENNIS:** Greg Rusedski, *the Great Britain* No 1, is struggling to be fit for his second-round match in the Stockholm Open tomorrow. Rusedski, who beat Nicklas Kulti, of Sweden, *on Monday* to book his place at next week's ATP Championships in Hanover, *was advised* by a doctor to take two days' complete rest before his *next match,* against Lionel Roux, of France.

Rusedski said yesterday: "I have a virus infection. I have spent all day in bed, my head is still hurting and I feel pretty bad. I plan to have another day in bed and see how I feel on Thursday." Tim Henman, the British No 2, will meet *Magnus Gustafsson in the* second round. The Swede beat Marcos Ondruska, of South Africa, yesterday.

Breakthrough

■ **HOCKEY: Slough and Southgate will become the first English women's clubs in the 26-year history of the competition to host the A division of the European club championship next April (Cathy Harris writes). Their joint-bid has been accepted by the European Hockey Federation (EHF), whose competitions secretary, Martin Gotheridge, estimated that the clubs will have to raise around £10,000 to stage the event.**

Whirlwind

■ **SNOOKER:** Jimmy White required only 58 *minutes at Malvern* yesterday to whitewash Justin Smalley 5-0 and earn a place in the last 32 of the Benson and Hedges Championship. White, relegated *from the game's* top 16 at the end of last season, must win the *tournament in order to earn* an automatic place in the Masters at Wembley next *February.* Brian Morgan, the holder of the title, also reached the seventh round.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Goodway calls for more aggression

By Christopher Irvine

WHILE conceding that there is a fine line between aggression and indiscipline, Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach, feels that his side was too tame in defeat against Australia at Wembley. It is a fault that he wants to address *before* the second British Gas international at Old Trafford on Saturday.

"As well as learning to tough it out mentally, we need to become more physical. I'm *not* suggesting we go round knocking heads off, but we should be taking the game to them." Goodway, who was never afraid in his playing career to test a referee's tolerance limits, said.

Injuries permitting, Goodway intends to name *his team* today. Most changes are expected in the pack, which could mean a starting *place* for Adrian Morley and a first call up for Simon Haughton, with Chris Joynt *pushed into* the front row to supplement their strong running.

Goodway's *options* are limited by the continued absence of the injured Iestyn Harris, Keiron Cunningham and Stuart Spruce. Surprisingly, he has decided against selecting from outside his 21-strong squad.

"We had a good, *long* talk about bringing people in from outside, but I think we've got to *look at all* the options in the squad," Goodway said. "We are not panicking. It's a case of looking at *the different* combinations."

Goodway feels that he cannot call on better players, *so it* is his job to extract better performances, which puts a big emphasis on the choice at half back and whether to stick with Andy Farrell, who is *playing out of his normal* loose forward position, and Bobbie Goulding.

Farrell was *far from* a qualified success at No 6 last Saturday, but he *remains probably* the best option in that role, although Sean Long should provide backup on the bench. That leaves Goodway the thorny decision of whether to replace Goulding at scrum half with Martin Crompton, who was due to rejoin the squad yesterday after returning from holiday.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Kansas City 13 Pittsburgh 10.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 112 *Miami* 99; Chicago 87 San Antonio 83 (2nd OT); Washington 90 Utah 86.

CLASSIC COLA NATIONAL CUP: Quarter-final draw: London Towers v Manchester Giants; Thames Valley Tigers v London Leopards; Birmingham Bullets v Worthing Bears; Sheffield Sharks v *Leicester Riders.*

BOWLS

KOWLOON: Manulife Hong Kong International Classic: Pairs: Third round: Section A: Wales *(W Matthews and J Hoskins) bt* Victoria Park (R Tse and W S Cheng) 42-14; Scotland (D Gourlay *and G Robertson)* bt Malaysia (Z Puteh and A Saidun) 20-15; Australia (A Jeffrey and M Jacobsen) bt China Light & Power (Chung Sum Keung and A Chu) 35-5; South Africa (G Baker and N Burkett) *bt Hong Kong* (T Tong and J Wong) 20-18; Kowloon CC (J Melbourne *and K Wallis) bt Craigengower CC (W Lai and* T Chok) 23-20; Channel Islands (F Hambly and *D Le Marquand) bt* Indian Recreation Club (S A K Bux and J S Wasan) 21-13. Section B: New Zealand (B Baldwin and B McNish) bt Hong Kong Police (D Ng and K K Yeung) 32-11; Canada (J Aitken and L Adams) bt Ireland *(J Henry and S Allen)* 16-15; Hong Kong LBA (A Poynton and W *McMahon) bt Kowloon BC (A Carstairs and* N Kennedy) 23-12; Zimbabwe (M McCormick and W Cumming) bt Hong Kong Correction Services Department (Lo Shu Wing and Tang Chung Piu) 26-16; England (A Wills and S Airey) bt Hong Kong CC (R Barnett and A Robertson) 23-15; Hong Kong *Electric* (K Kadir and *Ching Kwong* Cheung) bt Hong Kong FC (G Chan and D Cheung) 23-21. *Fourth round: Section A:* KCC bt Channel Islands 22-15; Victoria Park bt Hong Kong 24-14; South Africa bt CCC 23-14; IRT bt Malaysia 19-16; Scotland bt CLP 35-6; Australia bt Wales 23-17. Section *B: Canada bt Hong Kong CC 30-18;* Hong Kong LBA bt Hong Kong P 20-17; England *bt Hong Kong FC 41-8; New Zealand* bt Hong Kong Electric 26-8; KBC bt Zimbabwe 18-17; Ireland bt Hong Kong CSD 33-12. Fifth round: Section A: CCC bt IRC 32-8; Victoria Park bt CLP 24-18; Australia bt *Malaysia 31-19; South Africa* bt Wales 31-14; Hong Kong bt KCC 32-17; Scotland bt *Channel Islands* 34-14. Section B: Canada bt Zimbabwe 20-19; Hong Kong LBA bt Hong Kong CSD 38-5; New Zealand bt KBC 21-13; Hong Kong CC bt Hong Kong Electric 22-19; England bt Ireland 18-16; Hong Kong P bt Hong Kong FC 27-24.

CRICKET

Pakistan Golden Jubilee tournament

Pakistan v West Indies

LAHORE (Pakistan won toss): Pakistan beat West Indies by eight wickets

WEST INDIES

S C Williams b Azhar	75
S L *Campbell* c Rashid b Waqar	6
B C Lara b Waqar	7
C L Hooper c Shahid b Saqlain	1
S Chanderpaul lbw b Saqlain	0
P V Simmons st Rashid b Saqlain	70
†D Williams c and b Azhar	13
I R Bishop not out	15
F A Rose not out	7
Extras (b 5, lb 11, w 5)	21
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	215

M Dillon and *C A Walsh did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-51, 3-54, 4-56, 5-130, 6-166, 7-204

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 8-0-35-0; Waqar Younis 10-1-42-2; Saqlain Mushtaq 10-0-35-3; Shahid Afridi 8-0-41-0; Aamir Sohail 5-1-20-0; Azhar Mehmood 9-1-26-2.

PAKISTAN

Shahid Afridi b Walsh	17
Saeed Anwar not out	108
Ijaz Ahmed lbw b Bishop	5
Aamir Sohail not out	71
Extras: (lb 3, nb 9, w 6)	18
Total: (2 wkts, 40.4 overs)	219

Inzamam-ul-Haq, Moin Khan, Wasim Akram, *Azhar Mahmood, †Rashid Latif,* Saqlain Mushtaq and Waqar Younis did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-55

BOWLING: Walsh 7.4-1-43-1; Rose 7-1-41-0; Dillon 8-1-37-0; Bishop 5-0-42-1; Hooper 9-1-29-0; *Chanderpaul* 1-0-5-0; *Simmons* 3-0-19-0.

Man-of-the-match: Saeed Anwar

Umpires: Steve Dunne (New Zealand) and *Ian Robinson (Zimbabwe).*

HOCKEY

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Egypt 1 England 3 (in Cairo).

HA MEN'S CUP: Fourth-round draw: Bromley v Beeston; Cannock v Harleston Magpies; Canterbury v Guildford; Chichester v Sheffield; Doncaster v Bournemouth; East Grinstead v Reading; Hampstead v Cambridge City; Harrogate v Stourport; Hounslow v Surbiton; Ipswich v Oxford Hawks; Norton v St Albans; Old Cranleighans v Fareham; Old Loughtonians v Peterborough Town; Robinsons v Barford Tigers; Southgate v Teddington; Winchester v Spalding.

☐ Ties to be played on November 16.

HA WOMEN'S CUP: Third-round draw: Aldridge v Horsham; Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead v Exeter; *Blueharts v St* Ives; Bracknell v Bridgnorth; Bradford v Sunderland Bedans; Burnt Ash v Crimson Ramblers; Charnwood v Basildon; Chelmsford v Leyland Motors; Crosby v Didsbury Greys; Doncaster v Broxbourne; East Grinstead v Kirkby Stephen; Eastcote v *Ealing;* Epsom v Liverpool; Exmouth v Clifton; Harleston Magpies v Winchmore *Hill; Hightown v Hampstead and West*minster; Leicester v St Albans; Middleton and Bognor v Swindon; Northampton v Dereham; Olton v Old Loughtonians; Poynton v Tulse Hill; Sherwood v Slough; Southampton v Gloucester City; Stratford v Canterbury; Sunbury v Bedford; Sutton *Coldfield* v Ipswich; Taunton Vale v Blackburn; Trojans v West Witney; Tynedale v *Loughborough Students; Welton v Milton* Keynes; Wimbledon v Towcestrians; *Woking v Kettering.*

☐ Ties to be played on November 16.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Carolina 5 Vancouver 3; Montreal 6 Dallas 4; N Y Rangers 2 Edmonton 2 (OT); Philadelphia 5 St Louis 1.

RUGBY UNION

WORLD CUP: European qualifying pool one: Round B: *Italy* 102 Denmark 3. Pool two: Round B: Netherlands 35 Ukraine 13.

TENNENTS VELVET CUP: Third-round draw: Peebles v Ayr; Selkirk v West of *Scotland;* Kinross v Kelso, Glasgow Hawks v Cumbernauld; Biggar v Hillhead/Jordanhill; Currie v Allan Glens; Berwick v Heriots FP; Howe of Fife v Stirling County; Dundee HSFP v Stewarts Melville; Boroughmuir v Livingston; *Wigtownshire* v Watsonians; Melrose v Glenrothes; *Dunfermline v Kirkcaldy;* Madras College FP v Kilmarnock Falcons; Gordonians v Preston Lodge FP; Jed-Forest v Lochaber; Haddington v Hawick; Musselburgh v Cumnock; St Boswells v Edinburgh Academicals; Gala v Hawick Trades; Dalziel v Duns; Falkirk v Strathendrick; Alloa v *Aberdeen GSFP; Corstorphine v Linlithgow;* Langholm v Forrester FP; East Kilbride v Stewartry; Trinity Academicals v Penicuick; Grangemouth v Dumfries; Hutchesons/Aloysians v Annan; Murrayfield Wanderers v Aberdeenshire; Garnock v Hamilton Academicals; Glasgow Southern v RAF Lossiemouth.

☐ Ties to be played on November 8 and 9

SCHOOLS MATCH: Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 7 St Albans 39

SQUASH

KUALA LUMPUR: *Men's world championship:* First round: P Nicol (Scot) bt S Meads (Eng) 15-7, 15-8, 15-7; D Evans (Wales) bt C Rowland (Aus) 9-15, 15-11, 15-13, 15-10; A Barada (Egypt) bt T Hands (Eng) 12-15, 15-9, 15-9, 15-7; M Chaloner (Eng) bt M Heather (Scot) 15-6, 11-5, 15-13, *15-3; S Parke (Eng) bt C van der Wath (SA)* 15-14, 15-4, 15-13; A Gough (Wales) bt P Gregory (Gr) 15-9, 15-13, 15-12; M Cairns (Eng) bt K Low (Malaysia) 15-8, 15-11, 15-9.

NEW YORK: Carol Weymuller Open: Semi-finals: S Fitz-Gerald (Aus) bt S Wright (Eng) 2-9, 9-5, 9-2, 9-6; M Martin (Aus) bt L Irving (Aus) 9-6, 9-4, 9-5.

TENNIS

STOCKHOLM: Stockholm Open: First round: G Rusedski (GB) bt N Kulti (Swe) 7-6, 6-4; T Muster (Austria) bt C Ruud (Nor) 6-3, 6-1; L Roux (Fr) bt A Berasategui (Sp) 6-2, 6-1; M Tebbutt *(Aus) bt A Corretja* (Sp) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; M Larsson (Swe) bt F Johnsson *(Swe) 7-5, 7-5; M Gustafsson (Swe) bt M* Ondruska (SA) 6-2, 6-2; K Kucera (Slovenia) bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-4, 6-3; J van Herck (Bel) bt H Holm (Swe) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

MOSCOW: Kremlin Cup: First round: G Kuerten (Br) bt S Schalken (Holl) 6-7, 7-6, 7-6; H Dreekmann (Ger) bt A Volkov (Russ) 3-6, 6-4, 7-5; K Carlsen (Den) bt M Safin (Russ) 7-5, 6-7, 7-6; B Ulihrach (Cz) bt A *Radulescu* (Ger) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; P Korda (Cz) bt J Tarango (US) 4-6, 7-5, 6-3; W Black (Zim) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 7, 6-3, 6-4

SANTIAGO, Chile: Chevrolet Cup: First round: M Puerta (Arg) bt G Blanco (Sp) 6-4, 6-3; M Craca (Ger) bt J-A Marin (Sp) 7-5, 6-1; R Vasek (Cz) bt F Cabello (Arg) 6-4, 7-6; J Alonso (Sp) bt D Pescariu (Rom) 6-4, 6-7, 6-1; G Silberstein (Chile) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-2, 6-4; J-A Viloca (Sp) leads N Massu *(Chile)* 6-7, 7-5, 2-1, match suspended — fog

CHICAGO: Ameritech Cup: First round: L Courtois (Bel) bt A Mauresmo (Fr) 5-7, 7-6, 6-4; A Frazier (US) bt J Nejedly (Can) 6-3, 6-3; N Tauziat (Fr) bt R Dragomir (Rom) 6-3, 5-7, 6-2; S Williams (US) bt E Likhovtseva (Russ) 6-3, 7-5, J Kruger (SA) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 5-7, 6-3, 6-3

Today's bridge and chess columns appear on page 42

CRICKET

Lamb to help out at Northampton

By Ivo Tennant

IN ADDITION to signing Paul Reiffel, of Australia, as their overseas player and making moves for Devon *Malcolm, the Derbyshire fast* bowler, Northamptonshire have approached Allan Lamb *to return to the club* in a consultancy role. The aim is that he will coach the young *batsmen* and be available to help the senior players if required.

Lamb, a former captain of the county, retired shortly before the 1996 season. *Since then, he has developed* a corporate hospitality business and teamed up with Ian Botham, his former England colleague, against Imran Khan in a costly High Court case and in a two-man show that they took around the country last winter.

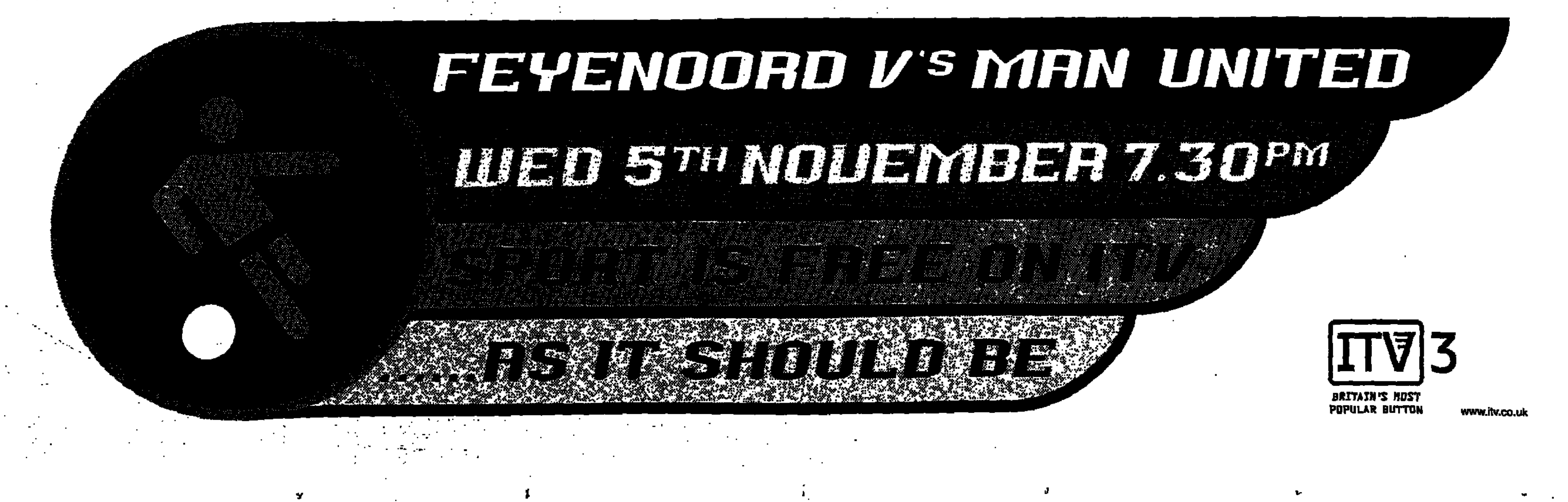
"Since Allan retired, our approach, attitude and preparation has not been quite what it was," Steve Coverdale, the chief executive, said. "Our *coaches, John Emburey,* Nick Cook and Neil Foster, are all bowlers and I am very keen *that Allan should rejoin us.* I get the impression he has been surprised by how much he has *been missing the game.*"

Saeed Anwar, the Pakistan opening batsman, recaptured *his best form* with a brilliant century as his side romped to an eight-wicket win over West *Indies in the* quadrangular one-day tournament in Lahore.

West Indies, restricted to a modest 215 for seven, were powerless to prevent Pakistan racing to 219 for two in 40.4 overs and finished without a point from three matches, having lost previously to South Africa and Sri Lanka.

Saeed and *Aamir Sohail* added 164 from 175 balls in an unbroken third-wicket partnership. Saeed hit 13 fours in his 108 while Aamir scored 71 from 88 deliveries.

Winston Davis, the former West Indies fast bowler, is likely to be left partially paralysed *after falling out of* a tree in St Vincent and receiving spinal injuries. Davis, 39, *who also played* for Northamptonshire, Glamorgan and Tasmania, was cutting *branches when the accident* occurred.



هكذا من الامل

Sack race that produces no winners

SIMON BARNES

Midweek View

The nights are drawing in. Vast groups of starlings wheel in winter flocks. There is the tang of gunpowder in the air. Infallible signs of the turning of the year — mark my words, the sacking season is upon us again.

The first manager to be sacked from a Premiership club was David Pleat, who, it seems, got the verdict on the nod from Gerry Francis. And so, like the Tom Lehrer song about the acquisition of nuclear weapons, we sing: "Who's next? Who's next?"

The first point is that no one in the bottom half of the table is safe. The second point is that no one in the top half of the table is safe, either. If you finish consistently second and you don't sack your manager, you are telling the world that you are satisfied with second-best.

Roy Evans is one of the most decent men in football, but he is the Liverpool manager and Liverpool keep on not winning the championship. His days are numbered. Arsène Wenger made a majestic start to the season with Arsenal, but now his side have slipped back. This weekend, they must play Manchester United. Will that be the beginning of the end?

Alex Ferguson at Manchester United is the only Premiership manager with a safe job. Or is he? His effortless domination of the Premiership has become a bit of a bore. If he draws a blank in Europe yet again, will it be time for a change?

Wild speculation about managerial futures is an essential aspect of football. If you don't win matches, you always sack the manager — as if he were out there letting in goals, missing sitters and awarding dodgy penalties.

Managing a football team is a fantasy among adult men, but it is a very poor one. A football manager has the very opposite of a satisfying job: he has responsibility without power.

It is the chairman that has it the right way round. When you get it right, take the credit. When it all goes wrong, you always have a manager to sack. There are only two courses of action open to you. You can either sack the manager, or you can not sack the manager.

So, at moments of crisis, when you want to "send a message to the supporters" that, though the seas are rough and the weather vile, you are steering the ship confidently towards haven, you have only one possible course of action — and chairmen always take it. Let's face it, they love doing it.

Sacking is accepted, even required behaviour. No one considers the truth that a sacking says more about the person who made the appointment than it does about the person sacked.

Who demands a sacking? Chairmen sack because the media expects it. The media expects it because the fans "demand" it. The fans demand it because it always happens.

Why? It can hardly be that a sound footballing man such as Pleat becomes an unsound footballing man in the space of a few weeks.

What does a sacking actually do? Why, it prepares the way for the next sacking, what else? A new manager comes new-brooming in, has his honeymoon and his players, cheered and filled with desire to impress, play above themselves for a few weeks. And the cycle continues. The players sink back to their accustomed level of performance, bad results bring misery, the team plays below its potential, worse results follow and the manager is sacked and the new one comes in. Please return to the top of the paragraph.

Managers are sacked because it is the custom, nothing else. Sackings are made with no thought for long-term planning, no thought for football. It is invariably a matter of power-conscious chairmen without a thought in their heads mindlessly conforming to the culture of the sack.

All sporting management is an attempt to control the uncontrollable. For a chairman, sacking is the sole medium for control at his disposal. It is not a very effective one, but at least, for the glorious few days of their sacking, the new appointment and the honeymoon, it hands him the illusion of control. For a brief moment, it masks the truth of football, the truth every manager and every chairman knows but dare not admit — that the game is not about managers and chairmen at all. It is about players. Fact: the clubs that sack the most generally achieve the least. Rum coincidence, that.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A couple's lofty ambitions

Home Front
BBC2, 8.30pm

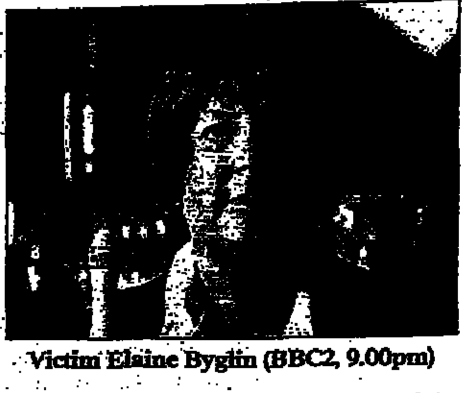
The return of the series which really does make you want to push up your sleeves and tackle decorating and DIY where you might have run a mile (or worse, hired a clumsy decorator) before. The Williams family, expecting a new baby, have decided to convert their loft . . . lucky them to have such a roomy, airy loft to start with. Once glass bricks have carved out a bathroom area, the windows have been fitted and colourful furniture moved in against the unpainted bricks, who wouldn't want to sleep there? An ongoing theme will be the gradual renovation of a 1930s semi in Bristol and a competition to find the Junior Decorator of the Year. This begins with 15-year-old Philip Cooper, a real little Conran in the making.

Modern Times: Bystanders
BBC2 9.00pm

"A man jumped out of a car after a young woman. I could see the fear in her eyes and I just walked away. Today I still feel guilty 17 years on." "I saw my husband on the floor and three young women jumping all over him — then they started punching me until I was unconscious. The regulars just stood and watched." These are two of the testaments of people involved in violence: a bystander who did nothing and Elaine Byglin, a pub landlady whose customers did *nothing*. One still bemused interviewee recalls being degraded and humiliated by a gang of thugs on a busy train. "Don't look for anyone to help you. Nobody does these days." Nicholas O'Dwyer's unsettling film examines the truth of this, and although some heroes and heroines do emerge, the results are a sad indictment of the way we live today.

Witness: The Clinic
Channel 4, 9.00pm

As part of the ongoing *Who's Choice?* strand marking the 30th anniversary of the Abortion Act, this gentle film, studded with statistics, should tell you everything you need to know about having a termination. Ethically it does not take sides although the anti-abortion lobby is given a kind of platform when protesters (all male) are seen harassing pregnant women going into the clinics and praying on their knees "for the soul of the unborn child." None of the women interviewed has taken termination lightly — all have had good reason, particularly one devastated victim of rape. The programme films in three private clinics around the country (average cost £350) and notes that although "one in three women" will undergo a termination at some point in her life, a feeling of guilt often lingers in spite of counselling before and after this demonstrably minor operation.



Victim Elaine Byglin (BBC2, 9.00pm)

Prison Weekly
BBC2, 11.15pm

Somehow the programme makers have persuaded the Home Office and the Scottish Prison Service — not to mention various custodial set ups in America — to grant them unprecedented access and have also found prisoners and former-prisoners to act as interviewers, guides and presenters. Each week a different prison (*Doncaster tonight*) fields a different inmate to introduce it. Governors, guards and probation officers are interviewed — problems such as bullying, drug taking and male prostitution get an airing. The former governor of HMP Cookham Wood, Collette Kershaw, tackles Sheriff Joe Arpaio about his soul-destroying methods in an Arizona lock-up, poet and ex-con Benjamin Zephaniah sings about normally unmentionable goings-on inside, and there is a bracing report on life aboard HMP *Weare*, the prison ship. **Elizabeth Cowley**

GOLF: EUROPEAN SEASON NOTABLE FOR ONE MAN'S HEARTWARMING COMEBACK

Year that Olazabal walked tall

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE 1997 European Tour began in Queensland, Australia, in January and ended in Jerez, Spain last Sunday. After the equivalent of several circumnavigations of the globe, the season has generated a multitude of images that jostle one another in the mind's eye.

There was the sight of Severiano Ballesteros holding up the Ryder Cup in September. In June, Colin Montgomerie had struggled with his composure after nearly winning the US Open. Early in the season, David Carter was saved from death in Dubai by the decisive action of his colleagues. One early autumn day, Bernhard Langer, in a small town in Germany, went round a good course in good condition in 60. A few weeks later, Joakim Haeggman threatened to heap indignity upon the St Andrews by taking 27 strokes for his outward half on the Old Course.

Yet the most dominant memory of all is of a Spaniard in Dubai in February, beneath a midday sun. Mad dogs and Englishman and all that, but José-María Olazábal could not wait to hit his first competitive strokes after a 17-month absence because of a medical condition that threatened his career. He walked like a man being buffeted from side to side by a beachfront wind. A cap threatened to fall over his eyes, except that it was stopped from doing so by his ears. Sergio Gomez, his manager, carried a cigar the size of a telegraph pole as he followed his man. He would light it only to celebrate the completion of 18 holes. Nine months earlier, Olazábal could hardly walk; now he was playing like a man who had never been away, birdies on three of the last four holes helping him to a round of 69.

Twice this past year, there was the rare sight of Olazábal in tears. The first occasion was in the Canary Islands in March, when he won his third tournament after his comeback; the second at the Ryder Cup two months ago. As is often the case, the sight of a strong man weeping did not diminish the regard in which he is held. Odd and heartless indeed would be anyone unmoved by the sight of Olazábal crying in pleasure after his Ryder Cup team-mates had risen to applaud him and his comeback. "The US Tour has Tiger Woods, but we have a miracle of our own in the return to full health of Olly," Ken Schofield, the executive director of the European Tour, said.

MARCELO DEL POZO

Olazábal, restored to fitness, in fighting form during the Ryder Cup

It was the year in which Montgomerie won only two tournaments, yet played well enough overall to capture a record fifth successive Order of Merit. Langer won four tournaments, yet could only come second. It was the year in which Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and Langer all turned 40. And it was the last year in which Montgomerie will devote as much time to competing in Europe as he has in the past.

With Montgomerie less in evidence, will there be a paucity of talent or will the new generation continue to progress until his absence is hardly noticed, much as Faldo has not been missed since he quit Europe?

Montgomerie named Thomas Bjorn, Darren Clarke, Ignacio Garrido, Per-Ulrik Johansson and Lee Westwood as the young men of the future. Of these, Johansson, 30, is the oldest. Westwood, 24, is the youngest and after playing well in the four major championships, in which his average finishing position was twentieth, he is the most promising, too. It is to be hoped that they can all reach a position to guarantee themselves places in the World Golf Championship events that start in 1999.

A year ago, almost to the day, John Paramor, the director of European Tour operations, spoke of having to "sew up the dagger holes in the back of my jacket. We need to smarten up our act." A lot of smartening remains to be done. The handling of the Miguel Angel Martin affair remains as indefensible in November as it was at the time. Slow play and poorly-prepared courses, whether because of incompetence, incorrect direction or commercial interests, are just two blights on the face of the Tour. A lack of manners by players towards the hand that feeds them is a curse, too.

EUROPEAN ORDER OF MERIT

LEADING FINAL POSITIONS: 1, C Montgomerie (Scot) £798,947; 2, B Langer (Ger) £692,398; 3, L Westwood (Eng) £588,718; 4, D Clarke (N Ire) £537,409; 5, I Woosnam (Wales) £503,562; 6, I Garrido (Sp) £411,479; 7, R Goosen (SA) £394,597; 8, P Harrington (Ire) £388,982; 9, J M Olazábal (Sp) £385,648; 10, R Karlsson (Swe) £364,542; 11, P U Johansson (Swe) £354,580; 12, C Rocca (It) £315,077; 13, E Romero (Arg) £290,469; 14, M James (Eng) £271,510; 15, T Bjorn (Den) £264,938; 16, R Russell (Scot) £250,833; 17, P Sjoland (Swe) £245,274; 18, G Turner (NZ) £239,869; 19, J Haeggman (Swe) £228,479; 20, R Claydon (Eng) £225,005; 21, P McGinley (Ire) £220,278; 22, P O'Malley (Aus) £208,340; 23, S Struver (Ger) £207,006; 24, P Baker (Eng) £200,820; 25, P Broadhurst £198,420; 26, R McFarlane (Eng) £187,340; 27, M A Martín (Sp) £187,289; 28, J Sandelin (Swe) £184,981; 29, J Coceres (Arg) £184,332; 30, S Ames (Trin) 183,190; 31, D Gilford (Eng) £182,619; 32, R Chapman (Eng) £182,354; 33, D Carter (Eng) £177,820; 34, R Green (Aus) £170,118; 35, J Spence (Eng) £160,986; 36 N Fasth (Swe) £159,370; 37, M A Jiménez (Sp) £158,413; 38, A Cabrera (Arg) £155,429; 39, P Price (Wales) £151,602; 40, P Mitchell (Eng) £148,329; 41, D Eclund (Swe) £147,234; 42, S Henderson (Scot) £147,000; 43, M Long (NZ) £144,314; 44, A Forsbrand (Swe) £141,727; 45, M Jonzon (Swe) £140,078; 46, A Coltart (Scot) £140,042; 47, D Howell (Eng) £137,703; 48, P Lonard (Aus) £134,067; 49, G Brand Jr (Scot) £133,541; 50, W Westner (SA) £129,452

Leading money-winners in Europe

1963:	B Hunt	£7,209
1964:	N Coles	£7,968
1965:	P Thomson	£7,011
1966:	B Devlin	£13,205
1967:	G Brewer	£20,235
1968:	G Brewer	£23,107
1969:	B Casper	£23,483
1970:	C O'Connor	£31,532
1971:	G Player	£11,281
1972:	R Charles	£18,538
1973:	A Jacklin	£24,839
1974:	P Oosterhuis	£32,127
1975:	D Hayes	£20,507
1976:	S Ballesteros	£39,504
1977:	S Ballesteros	£46,436
1978:	S Ballesteros	£54,348
1979:	A Lyle	£49,233
1980:	G Norman	£74,829
1981:	B Langer	£95,991
1982:	A Lyle	£86,141
1983:	N Faldo	£140,761
1984:	B Langer	£160,883
1985:	A Lyle	£254,711
1986:	S Ballesteros	£259,275
1987:	I Woosnam	£439,075
1988:	S Ballesteros	£502,000
1989:	R Rafferty	£465,981
1990:	I Woosnam	£737,978
1991:	S Ballesteros	£790,811
1992:	N Faldo	£1,220,540
1993:	C Montgomerie	£798,145
1994:	C Montgomerie	£920,647
1995:	C Montgomerie	£1,038,718
1996:	C Montgomerie	£1,034,752
1997:	C Montgomerie	£982,305

(Includes Order of Merit events, and World Matchplay and Alfred Dunhill Cup)

Answers from page 42

OKIE

(c) A migrant agricultural worker, specifically one from Oklahoma forced to leave his farm during the depression of the 1930s. John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*, 1939: "Okie use' ta mean you was from Oklahoma. Now it means you're a dirty son-of-a-bitch."

PONGAL

(b) The Tamil New Year festival at which new rice is cooked: hence, a dish of cooked rice. An adaptation of the Tamil *ponkal* "boiling". "The central rite of the great Pongal festival of South India consists in cooking new rice, some of which is offered to Ganesa, the remainder being eaten by the family."

SALONFAHIG

(a) Fit for (polite) society: socially respectable. The German word. *Encounter*, 1980: "The Austrian initiative, whatever its underlying motivations, serves to lend an air of cultured respectability to a blood-stained struggle and to render Arafat salonfähig in Western Europe."

PENGO

(c) The basic monetary unit of Hungary from 1927 to 1946. The Hungarian word literally means "ringing". "The Pengo (of 100 Filler) was superseded in August, 1946, by a new currency, the gulder."

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RADIO CHOICE

The Directors
Radio 2, 10.00pm

Confession time: I think Woody Allen makes terrific films but I wish he would not appear in them. That voice has reached a stage of development where it comes across as a parody of itself. And if Allen is to be taken at his word in this interview for what is proving to be a most interesting series, just about anyone could play the leads because allegations that his obsession with New York Jewish angst is related to the fact that he lives in New York, is Jewish and angst-ridden are quite unfounded. Hard to credit, isn't it? Still, Allen is very convincing tonight on the craft of directing and he gives some insights into how he handles a cast and the extent to which the cast drives the action.

Reinventing The Wheel
Radio 4, 9.00pm

This excellent series on the history of technology is in serious danger of making science popular, though come to think of it, popularity and the size of the Radio 4 audience at this time of the night probably do not fit in the same sentence. Tonight the programme demonstrates that however much some of us may bemoan marketing and the exploitation of inventions, they have been around for a long time. James Watt (of the steam engine) and his partner Matthew Boulton became rich because they took up Boulton's idea that the engine should be patented for 25 years, thus bringing them large sums in royalties. Alexander Graham Bell was similarly conscious of the gains to be made from the telephone, which he patented. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley. Includes Newsbeat **2.00pm** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Dave Pearce **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session **8.30** Trade Update **8.40** John Peel. Includes a session by Hitcher **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1.00am** Clive Warren **4.00** Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** David Aaronovitch **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Johnnie Walker **7.00** Nick Barraclough **8.00** Folk on 2 **9.00** Mr Blue: The Tom Paxton Story (1/2) **9.30** The Guns of Navarone (5/5) **10.00** The Directors. See Choice **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide with Julian Worricker **7.00** News Extra **7.30** John Inverdale's Football Night. Newcastle United take on PSV Eindhoven at St James' Park and Manchester United meet Feyenoord in Rotterdam in the Champions League. Including National Lottery live **10.00** Littlejohn **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night **5.00** Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Jeremy Clark **7.00** Chris Evans **10.00** (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Dene **1.00pm** (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Horne **4.00** Russ 'n' Jono **7.00** (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Caimin Jones **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: The Colour of Blood **7.30** Meridian Live **8.00** News **8.10** Pause for Thought **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** News; News in German (648 only) **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** The Farming World **9.30** Science File **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** One Planet **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Sports International **12.00** News **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Seeing Stars **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Megamix **3.00** News; News in German (648 only) **3.05** Sports Roundup **3.15** Performance **3.30** Everywoman **4.00** News **4.15** From Our Own Correspondent **4.30** The World Today; News in German (648 only) **4.45** Britain Today **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** The Works; News in German (648 only) **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Pause for Thought **7.30** Multitrack X-Press **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** On Screen **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Outlook **11.30** Multitrack X-Press **12.00** Newsdesk **2.30am** From Our Own Correspondent **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Omnibus **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Meridian Books **3.00** News **3.05** World Business Report **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Journey to the Centre of the Atom **3.45** History Today **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe Today **5.00** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Alan Mann. Includes Breakfast Baroque and the Morning March **9.00** Henry Kelly. Includes Michael Barry prepares chili con carne and Record of the Week featuring the best of the new releases **1.00pm** Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones **2.00** Concerto. Brahms (Double Violin Concerto in A minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick. Includes Two in a Row, and Three Steps to Seven **7.00** Newsnight with John Brunning **7.30** Sonata. Handel (Recorder Sonata in C) **8.00** Evening Concert. Handel (Music for the Royal Fireworks); Ravel (Piano Concerto for the Left Hand); Stravinsky (The Firebird); Tchaikovsky (1812 Overture) **10.00** Michael Mappin. Includes **11.35** Nocturne **2.00am** Concerto (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Handel (Occasional Suite in D); Delius (Violin Sonata No 1); Gabrieli (Hic est Filius Dei); Saint-Saëns (Cello Concerto No 1 in A minor); Wagner (Tristan und Isolde, Prelude to Act 1); Strauss (Oboe Concerto)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Vivaldi (Concerto in A); Chopin (Four Mazurkas); Granados (Piano Trio); Ravel (Bolero)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mark Rowlinson. Novak (The Lovers, Slovak Suite); Schubert (Das Lied im Grünen; Das Zügenglöcklein); Sheppard (In Manus Tuas 1); Telemann (Concerto in D for three trumpets); Gerard Schurmann (Concerto for Orchestra); Tallis (Dum Transisset a 5); Mozart (String Quintet in C)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Vaughan Williams
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from the Wigmore Hall, London. Nelson Goerner, piano. Mozart (Fantasy in D minor); Brahms (Seven Fantasies); Liszt (Harmonies du Soir; Chasse-Neige; Mazeppa, Transcendental Studies)
2.00 Midweek Choice, with Susan Sharpe. Telephone 0171-765 4366 with your requests for bonfire night
4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Ripon Cathedral
5.00 In Tune. Sean Rafferty talks to Jonathan Dove, the composer of this year's BT commission, as he prepares for the premiere of his new work this week
7.30 Performance on 3. A concert from the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment's series of music from Mozart's Vienna, given last year as part of its BBC residency at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Chi-Chi Nwanoku, double bass, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Frans Bruggen. Haydn (Symphony No 59 in A, Fire); Dittersdorf (Double Bass Concerto in E flat); Mozart (Symphony No 41 in C, Jupiter)
9.00 Postscript: Ulysses (Sounding the Century). A celebration of the 75th anniversary of the publication of James Joyce's *Ulysses*. The composer Luciano Berio reflects on Joyce's ear, and the artist Tom Phillips discusses Joyce's eye (3/5)
9.20 Oxbridge Organs. Gillian Weir returns to the chapel of Clare College, Cambridge, where she used to play shortly after the two-manual classical organ was built by the German firm of Von Beckerath in the 1970s. Buxtehude (Toccata in F); Frescobaldi (Aria Detto Balletto); Rossi (Toccata No 7 in D minor); Honegger (Fugue); Anton Heiller (Suite in Festo Corporis Christi)
10.00 Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces a recital by Graham Scott, piano. Mozart (Piano Sonata in A); Franck (Prelude, Chorale and Fugue)
10.45 Night Waves. Hermione Lee discusses Robert Wilson's return to London's West End with a theatrical version of Marguerite Duras's *La Maladie de la Mort*
11.30 Composer of the Week: Dussek (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Highlights from a concert given by the Alan Elsdon All-Star Jazz Band. Introduced by Digby Fairweather
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with the *Times* columnist Libby Purves and her guest, the American travel-writer Bill Bryson
10.00 News; The New Face of Germany. Caroline Wyatt explores the stereotype of the German people as being serious and humourless (4/4)
10.00 (LW) Daily Service
10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.30 (FM) Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time. Nigel Colborn, Bob Flowerdew and Geoffrey Smith answer questions sent in by post. With chairman Eric Robson (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Lesley Riddoch
12.25pm Dinner Ladies. A comedy drama series written by Turan Ali. With Barbara Dickson, Liz Smith and Jean Heywood (3/6) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Blind Barber, by John Dickson Carr, dramatised by Peter Ling. With Donald Sinden, John Hartley, Patrick Allen and Clive Swift
2.45 News; Treasure Islands, with Michael Rosen. Sue Ellis discusses reading projects where parents have a key role in helping their children
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Gambaccini sees *Face/Off*, the latest film from the Hong Kong director John Woo, starring John Travolta and Nicolas Cage, and investigates this year's London Film Festival as new programmers take over the planning
4.45 Short Story: Man of His Times, by Frank White, read by Stephen Thorne (r)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Wildbrain. Lionel Kelleway chairs the second regional heat of the wildlife quiz in Liverpool (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts. John Waite investigates
7.45 Conversations with Strangers. A series in which people talk openly about themselves to Robert Robinson
8.30 Poetry Bang! Ian McMillan hosts an evening of verbal fireworks for Bonfire Night from the Roadhouse in Manchester
9.00 Reinventing the Wheel. See Choice (3/4)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Laughter in the Dark, by Vladimir Nabokov, read by David Horovitch (8/10)
11.00 The Shuttleworths, with Graham Fellows (6/6)
11.15 Grievous Bodily Radio. The comedy series from Jon Holmes and Andy Hurst. With Peter Serafinowicz, Emma Clarke and Mike Chequer (5/6)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
11.30 (FM) My Life as a Car. Phil Daniels stars in Mark Wallington's comedy series (5/6) (r)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Funny Boy. Gary Pillai reads Shyam Selvadurai's story (3/10)
12.48 (LW) Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

Lady and gentlemen, you've been framed

Matthew Bond

Sooner or later somebody was going to remember about "*lambs*" and "slaughter". The only real question was whether it would be the male sex or Gillian DuCharme, headmistress of Benenden. Last night, both waited patiently for the nice, smooth-talking documentary makers to cut off their heads.

The men, bless 'em, were all puppy-dog eagerness. Told that this was their chance to say what they really meant about women drivers, they rather sweetly believed it. **Cutting Edge: Women Drivers** (Channel 4) was clearly going to be a treat.

"What I don't understand," said one, his elbow assuming the approved driver-door position for advanced philosophising, "is why women's insurance is so cheap when they cause all the accidents." A lot of other chaps nodded their agreement. The trouble with women, began another from that haven of reason, the white van, is that they're the gentler sex. "And that's no good out here. I suppose that's why they don't fight wars — it's like a war out here." That was certainly the way he drove.

Whether women fight wars or not (hasn't it changed recently?) was really neither here nor there. What they do make is very good documentaries, as Ella Bahaire showed. Hers was a film very much in the lightweight spirit of this new *Cutting Edge* series, which appears to have carried on where BBC1's *Driving School* left off. Nothing sensational, nothing that requires months of investigation, just a documentary series driven by a single thought: how many people can we get to watch?

Bahaire's first priority was to entertain. If that meant some of her action was modestly staged (at one point I thought she had Paul Whitehouse playing a London cabbie) then so be it, that is the fashion among makers of popular documentaries. But she also managed to be interesting, if not necessarily convincing, about why upper-middle-class mothers feel safer doing the school run in four-wheel-drive Jeeps, and why anonymity is a key component of male road rage. Well, think of the shame if anybody we knew saw us.

Most of all, however, it was a chance to have a go at men. She had the statistics, showing that men were responsible for at least 90 per cent of everything (men, of course, already knew that). She had Lee and his white vanload of testosterone. And she had a pet psychotherapist to reveal that male behaviour behind the wheel came down to "fear of castration". Her closing shot of Justin, a blow-up male passenger doll, deflating was deliciously apposite.

The male sex did not have to wait long for revenge, although even the toughest among them may not have had the stomach for **Back to the Floor** (BBC2). This was going to be vicious, as its innocent victim already had an inkling. "I feel just like a sacrificial lamb going to the slaughter," said Gillian DuCharme as she began a week of working as a cover teacher at an East London comprehensive. And this was just morning assembly; her English and French lessons were still to come. Suddenly the leafy and very expensive tranquillity of Benenden seemed a long way away.

At times, Adam Wishart's film was almost too painful to watch. DuCharme ("I haven't met many DuCharmes," observed the comprehensive's headmaster) emerged as game and magnificently honest when her week on the wild side ended, to all intents and purposes, in failure. "If anyone got it wrong it was me, not them. But they [Class 9T] didn't help."

But DuCharme also emerged as naive, and not just in entrusting her reputation to a fly-on-the-blackboard film crew. "I didn't know whether you'd be black or white," she laughed as she met the Forest Gate headmaster. "Or Indian," she added as a broad-minded afterthought. Later she would interrupt taking the register to ask a pupil if he was from Nigeria. The boy looked puzzled. He thought he was from Forest Gate.

The film was certainly no advertisement for comprehensive teaching, despite the passionate but rarely heard beliefs (it may have been wicked editing, but DuCharme appeared immensely fond of the sound of her own voice) of the Forest Gate staff. Teaching an unstreamed class of 30, including pupils with special needs, appeared to be an exercise designed to stretch just one individual — the teacher.

But nor was it much of a commercial for private education. Anybody who believes that a school where the fees are £14,000 a year is a "microcosm of society" really ought to have the good sense not to say so in the middle of a East London school struggling to get by on an annual budget of £1,400 per pupil.

By one of those strange television coincidences, the headmaster in **Underworld**, played by Owen Brenman in Channel 4's new comedy drama, bore a truly remarkable resemblance to the Forest Gate headmaster. James Fleet, however, playing William Smith, the customary common-room antihero, bore no resemblance to DuCharme. He settled a noisy classroom with a stage whisper, gently rebuked an Asian pupil for wearing trainers ("don't tell me, it's a central tenet of Islam") and drove home in his 2CV to discover that his young wife had left him and stolen his belongings.

Andy Hamilton's script was at times very funny, at others just a little on the slow side. But most of all, at least on the evidence of this opening episode, his mix of the suburban with the surreally sinister bears a really uncanny resemblance to Alan Plater's *The Beiderbecke Affair*. Still, if Plater doesn't mind . . .

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (69582)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (64940)
9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (5908650)
9.25 Style Challenge Four librarians from Bristol (5927785)
9.50 Kilroy (T) (5225817)
10.30 Change That in Sheffield (4533619)
10.55 The Really Useful Show Featuring lifelong complainer David Walsh (7212389)
11.35 Real Rooms A bathroom in Bath (6663150)
12.00 News (T) and weather (6695921)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (9416619)
12.35 Going for a Song (2621018)
1.00 News (r) and weather (74327)
1.30 Regional News (T) (84735230)
1.40 The Weather Show (59293495)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (97148360)
2.10 Quincy (r) (2307389)
3.00 World on a Plate Food preservation (4766)
3.30 Playdays (r) (8566853) **3.50** ChuckleVision (r) (8553389) **4.10** Get Your Own Back (T) (6821151) **4.35** Out of Tune (T) (1182853) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5823476) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (9774476)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (718056)
6.00 News (T) and weather (563)
6.30 Regional News (T) (143)
7.00 Face Value Finasteride, a "wonder cure" for baldness; paying up to £300 a day to be taken shopping; detox diets (T) (6747)
7.30 Tomorrow's World Jez Nelson reports from Singapore on a nursery which introduces toddlers to the latest computer technology. Plus, the perfect sniffer dog in Australia (T) (327)
8.00 Crime Beat Martyn Lewis delves into the burglar alarm business (T) (5495)
8.30 The National Lottery Live with American pop group "N-Sync" (T) (108414)
8.45 Points of View (T) (198037)
9.00 News (T) and weather (3872)
9.29 National Lottery Update (626921)
9.30 Absolutely Fabulous Patsy's sister pays a visit (r) (T) (14360)
10.00 The X Files: Terma (2/2) Mulder escapes the Russian gulag but Scully refuses to reveal his whereabouts to the higher authorities (T) (928259)
10.45 Full Circle with Michael Palin (r) (T) (888292) **WALES: 10.45** A Touch of Classics (480698) **11.15** Full Circle with Michael Palin (866230) **12.05am** Welsh Questions (1429896) **12.35** The Richard Dimbleby Lecture (7341235) **1.20** FILM: A Time of Destiny (907761) **3.10** News and weather (66316964)
11.35 The Richard Dimbleby Lecture Jonathan Dimbleby introduces Lord Nolan, who reflects on the success of his committee in rooting out sleaze in Parliament (905853)
12.20am A Time of Destiny (1988) with William Hurt, Timothy Hutton and Melissa Leo. Second World War drama about two GIs whose close friendship is jeopardised by tragedy and revenge. Directed by Gregory Nava (961273)
2.10 Weather (9960885)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
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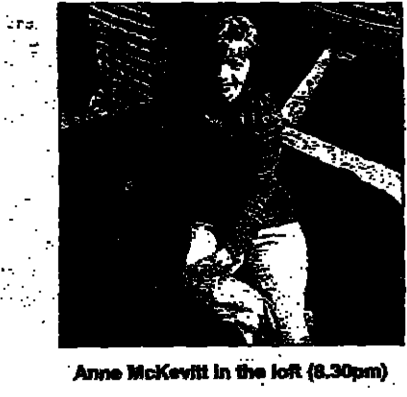
BBC2

6.00am Technology: Given Enough Rope (80563) **6.30** Artware: Computers in the Arts (35940)
7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (9282817)
7.15 Teletubbies (r) (4379360) **7.40** Smurfs' Adventures (r) (2653501) **8.05** The Really Wild Show (2240698) **8.30** Penny Crayon (4932853) **8.40** Tales of Aesop (9033834) **8.45** The Record (9938679) **9.10** What? Where? When? Why? (1698817) **9.25** English Express (2513834) **9.45** Words and Pictures (4823308) **10.00** Teletubbies (26292) **10.30** Numbertime (8662227) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (7117132) **11.00** Around Scotland (1952056) **11.20** Geography Programme (3726018) **11.40** Revista (3664835) **11.55** Quinze Minutes Plus (1121495) **12.10pm** Science in Action (8181211)
12.30 Working Lunch (32766)
1.00 Noddy (r) (72266178) **1.10** The Art and Antiques Hour (6766292) **2.10** Going, Going, Gone (96419259) **2.35** Really Useful Show (3788679) **2.40** News (3778292) **2.45** Westminster (4062650) **3.55** News (8593292) **4.00** Ready, Steady, Cook (376) **4.30** Through the Keyhole (r) (1181124) **4.55** Esther: Shopaholics (9938679) **5.30** Today's the Day (292)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (r) (T) (560501)
6.45 Sliders (T) (789105)
7.30 Black Britain Special Investigation into the murder of a Cardiff woman in 1952 which led to the hanging of Somalian seaman Mahmoud Mattan, asking whether an innocent man went to the gallows (T) (969)
8.00 Gary Rhodes New series: Alderney mussels glazed with cider and leeks; roast chicken and bacon, chocolate banana bread pudding (T) (3037)

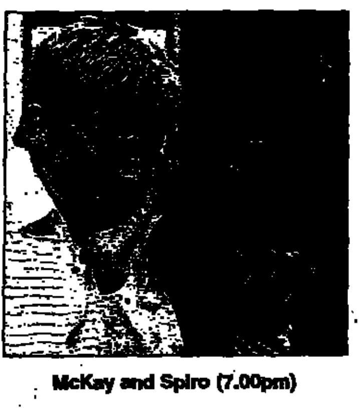


Anne McKevitt in the loft (8.30pm)

8.30 Home Front Tessa Shaw introduces a new series of the interior design show (T) (5872)
9.00 Modern Times: Bystanders An exploration of an ethical dilemma (T) (643360)
9.50 The Rugby Club Last in series (T) (117056)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (427768)
11.15 Prison Weekly New series offering an insight into life behind bars (T) (478853)
11.45 10x10 A woman is pregnant after an angelic encounter (671414)
11.55 Weather (835785)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (T) (12438)
12.30am Learning Zone: Sally Gunnell (9102902) **12.45** Architecture (3991631) **1.35** Church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli, Venice (8897896) **2.00** English Time (56893) **4.00** Italianissimo (32273) **5.00** Nursing (20032) **5.30** Nursing (13167)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4470940)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (5903105)
9.55 Regional News (6420834)
10.00 The Time, the Place (20018)
10.30 This Morning (T) (48706679)
12.20pm Regional News (6609124)
12.30 News (T) and weather (2640143)
12.55 Shortland Street (2625834) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (73290637) **1.50** Quisine (T) (97154921) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (96486921) **2.50** The Fashion Police. An expectant mother is guided through the maze of maternity wear (T) (8066495)
3.20 News (T) (8378853)
3.25 Regional News (8377124)
3.30 Tots TV (3292872) **3.40** The Parkies (1581124) **3.50** The New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh (r) (8755501) **4.20** Neil's Art Attack Scrapbook (T) (6969673) **4.45** Sabrina the Teenage Witch (T) (1173105)
5.10 WALES: Yan Can Cook — The Best of China (9236327)
5.10 No Naked Flames — The Work Experience (9236327)
5.40 News (T) and weather (975872)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (733259)
6.25 Regional Weather (695650)
6.30 Regional News (T) (211)



McKay and Spiro (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale Sarah (Alyson Spiro) tells Rachel (Glenda McKay) what she thinks of her (4143)
7.30 Uefa Champions' League — Live! Bob Wilson presents coverage of the match between Feyenoord and Manchester United (T) (48695150)
NB: Subsequent programmes are subject to delay or alteration
9.45 Coronation Street The pressure is building for Jim. Alan and Fiona prepare for their wedding (T) (484414)
10.15 News at Ten (T) National Lottery result and weather (476495)
10.45 Regional News and weather (725414)
10.58 WALES: Whodunnit? The Strange Case of Dr William Parry (978143)
10.55 Uefa Champions League Highlights Newcastle and PSV Eindhoven (518921)
11.28 WALES: Champions' League Highlights (572389)
12.25am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (5863761)
1.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (2153761)
1.20 Don't Forget Your Bucket and Spade from Taunton to Minehead (6258341)
2.20 Jones and Jury (r) (7466148)
2.40 Uefa Champions' League (477051)
4.20 Sound Bites (40973612)
4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (93004780)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (57186)
5.30 News (96803)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.54pm Air Watch (19479037)
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (2625834)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9236327)
5.59-6.00 Air Watch (457327)
6.25-7.00 Central News (115786)
11.55 Film: There's a Girl in My Soup (574563)
1.45am In Focus (7695877)
2.30 ITV Sport Classics (6870693)
2.35 Champions' League (205761)
4.20 Central Jobfinder '97 (5540506)
5.20 Asian Eye (9678148)

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6691105)
12.55 Home and Away (7629495)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (79729495)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9236327)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (37211)
11.55 Beadle's About Late at Night (862679)

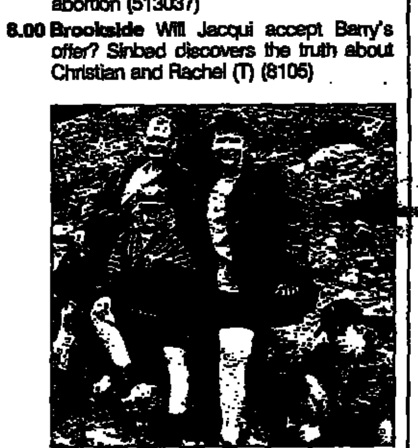
As HTV West except:
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9236327)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (259)
6.30-7.00 Put It to the Test (211)
11.55 Beyond Reason (862679)
5.00am Freescreen (57186)

As HTV West except:
12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6603940)
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (2625834)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9236327)
6.23 Anglia Weather (603679)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (115786)
10.44 Anglia Air Watch (702563)
11.55 Tales from the Crypt (862679)

Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (57650)
9.00 Yagollon (484327)
11.30 Powerhouse (4747)
12.00 Sesame Street (16230)
12.30pm Ricki Lake (27834)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (66961786)
1.15 Tic Toc (75416691)
1.30 Jump (44741650)
1.50 Film: A Ticket to Tomahawk (82462940)
3.30 Collector's Lot (389)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (124)
4.30 Dan Pearson: Routes Around the World (308)
5.00 5 Pump (8277969)
5.15 Ffeil (5828921)
5.30 Countdown (360)
6.00 Newyddion (166563)
6.10 Heno (542105)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (814018)
7.25 Ffermio (189105)
8.00 Gwaith Cartref (8105)
8.30 Newyddion (5740)
9.00 Prime Suspect (3124)
10.00 Brookside (353921)
10.35 Babylon 5 (530143)
11.30 Cybill (40872)
12.00 Under the Moon (4010506)
4.30am Chinese Football (79896)
5.00-5.30 Screaming Reels (55728)

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (52292)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (57650)
9.00 Schools: Making Sense of Science (4786) **9.30** Good Health (T) (4813921) **9.45** Book Box (T) (4818476) **10.00** Stage Two Science (T) (9195261) **10.15** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3367312) **10.30** Geographical Eye (T) (2730921) **10.50** Stop, Look, Listen (T) (8982785) **11.00** First Edition (3740698) **11.15** The Mix (T) (3723921)
11.30 Powerhouse Political magazine (4747)
12.00 Sesame Street (16230) **12.30pm** Light Lunch (20650) **1.30** Gardens Without Borders (r) (84719292) **1.45** Earthscape. A wildlife short (59285476)
1.50 Pink String and Sealing Wax (1945, b/w) Googie Withers and Gordon Jackson in a thriller set in 1890s Brighton. A publican's wife persuades a besotted young man to help to murder her husband. Directed by Robert Hamer (82462940)
3.30 Collector's Lot (T) (389) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (124) **4.30** Countdown (T) (1176292) **4.55** Ricki Lake (T) (9923747) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (360)
6.00 The Cosby Show Diane turns to Clair for advice (r) (T) (501)
6.30 Roseanne Becky takes Darlene to a party (r) (T) (853)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (588327)
7.50 Whose Choice?: Mixed Feelings A man in his late forties regrets that a relationship 20 years ago ended in an abortion (513037)
8.00 Brookside Will Jacqui accept Barry's offer? Sinbad discovers the truth about Christian and Rachel (T) (8105)



The Dipple family (8.30pm)

8.30 The Real Holiday Show Three more camcorder revelations, presented by Gaby Roslin, including a Scotsman's cheap holiday on the Costa Brava, Spain; a couple attempting a reconciliation in the French Alps; and 50-year-old twins celebrating their birthday by cruising around the Canary Islands (T) (5740)
9.00 Whose Choice?: Witness — The Clinic A documentary that goes behind the scenes at three abortion clinics (T) (3124)
10.00 A is for Accident The reality behind crazy driving. First shown in the *Cutting Edge* series (T) (r) (6211)
11.00 Whose Choice?: A Mixed Blessing Four women take an amniocentesis test. An update of a documentary first shown in *The Decision* series last year (T) (77414)
12.00 Under the Moon Sports magazine (4010506)
4.30am Chinese Football (r) (79896)
5.00 Screaming Reels (r) (T) (55728)
5.30 Scottish Writers A.L. Kennedy (r) (T) (6886867)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are *picture:* **10.92075 GHz**; *sound:* **7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (2945921)
7.30 Milkshake (4608563) **7.35** USA High (6009414) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (2792619)
8.30 WideWorld The work of two American minimalist artists, Richard Serra and Robert Smithson (14/15) (7647560)
9.00 Espresso Consumer magazine (2997766) **10.00** Exclusive (8094018) **10.30** Treasure Islands (r) (T) (3247704)
11.00 Leeza Chat show (7642872) **11.50** Double Espresso (94826872) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (9542196)
12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T) (8839105)
1.00 5 News Update (61145871) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (3628679) **2.00** 5's Company (8696747)
3.30 O.S.S. (1946, b/w) starring Alan Ladd. A Second World War drama about an elite team parachuted into occupied France just before D-Day. Directed by Irving Pichel (2956037)
5.30 Whittle Audience participation quiz show (T) (3083327)
6.00 100 Per Cent Game show without a host (3073940)
6.30 Family Affairs Pete discovers that Maria has changed the locks (T) (3064292)
7.00 Exclusive Showbiz news (5662766)

Seal survivor (7.30pm)

7.30 Song of the Seal: What Killed the Seals? The story of the sharp reduction in the seal population around Britain a decade ago (T) (3060476)
8.00 Instant Gardens William Van Hage and his team begin the first stage of the transformation of Pam and Ken Brownbill's garden (5671414)
8.30 5 News (T) (5650921)
9.00 A Fight for Jenny (1986) starring Lesley Anne Warren and Philip Michael Thomas. A drama about a couple whose interracial marriage in the Deep South provokes prejudice. Directed by Robert Greenwald (T) (79788414)
10.50 Not the Jack Docherty Show With Graham Norton (4202853)
11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H Doreen returns (1655921)
12.35am Live and Dangerous Includes American college football and basketball (32753419)
4.35 The Streets of San Francisco: Dead Air Gang warfare breaks out (r) (T) (7715341)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2978631)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (868650) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (30853) **10.00** Another World (98921) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (18785) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (84143) **1.00pm** Geraldo (60563) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (74853) **3.00** Jenny Jones (77389) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (89124) **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (3292) **6.00** Dream Team (9582) **6.30** Married... with Children (1114) **7.00** The Simpsons (4921) **7.30** Real TV (6018) **8.00** Seventh Heaven (82198) **9.00** Pacific Palisades (12940) **10.00** Ibiza Uncovered (22327) **11.00** Star Trek: Voyager (99650) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (84254) **1.00am** In the Heat of the Night (51089) **2.00** Long Play (5735883)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Silver Bears (1978) (82774582) **7.50** *Out of Time* (1988) (34124650) **9.30** **Marriage on the Rocks** (1965) (75476) **11.30 Dunston Checks In** (1995) (55124) **1.00pm Silver Bears** (1978) (89785) **3.00 Marriage on the Rocks** (1965) (96789) **5.00 First Knight** (1995) (15375853) **7.15 Dunston Checks In** (1995) (65000143) **9.00 Twelve Monkeys** (1995) (20105327) **11.15 Once You Meet a Stranger** (1996) (446056) **12.50am SFW** (1995) (253085) **2.30 Hostile Force** (1996) (798483) **4.10 Nelly and Monsieur Arnaud** (1995)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.30am The Joy of Living (1938) (13583) **8.00 Born to be Wild** (1995) (74885788) **9.40 Bedlam** (1946) (9190308) **11.00 Shanghai Express** (1932) (7974834) **12.25pm Mayday at 40,000 Feet** (1976) (937785) **2.00 I Walked with a Zombie** (1943) (4880829) **3.10 The Ghost Ship** (1943) (2291501) **4.20 Born to be Wild** (1995) (47255563) **6.00 Semi-Precious** (1996) (47872) **8.00 Jack and Sarah** (1995) (26230) **10.00 White Angel** (1994) (261292) **11.40 Donor Unknown** (1995) (519476) **1.15am Nell** (1994) (362273) **3.10 Not Like Us** (1995) (336490) **4.45 The Corsican Brothers** (2280544)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Sea Chase (1955) (1409853) **6.00 The Railway Children** (1970) (2983292) **8.00 Good Guys Wear Black** (1979) (2895037) **10.00 Fatal Beauty** (1987) (7147582) **11.45 All of Me** (1984) (2267476) **1.20am Susan Slept Here** (1954) (2428893) **3.00 The Sicilian Clan** (1969) (2533419) **4.55** Close

TNT

9.00pm The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948) (40823327) **11.15 Young Cassidy** (1965) (14933037) **1.15am Escape from East Berlin** (1962) (54317544) **2.45 The Yellow Rolls Royce** (1964) (84508821) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (35476) **7.30** Wrestling (87495) **8.30** Sports Centre (48476) **9.00** Racing News (62056) **9.30** Aerobics (75018) **10.00** The Footballers' Football Show (43495) **11.00** Pool (83259) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (42292) **12.30pm** Cricket Max: New Zealand XI v England XI (51582) **2.30** Tartan Extra (3327) **3.00** The Footballers' Football Show (15563) **4.00** Watersports World (84898) **5.00** Wrestling (1476) **6.00** Sports Centre (4056) **6.30** Futbol Mundial (5308) **7.00** Cricket Max: New Zealand XI v England XI (613037) **10.00** Sports Centre (49921) **10.30** Futbol Mundial (69869) **11.00** Pool (44124) **12.00** Sports Centre (90254) **12.30am** Cricket Max: New Zealand XI v England XI (2769709) **3.30** Sports Centre (88254) **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (8210209) **7.30** Sports Centre (7765394) **8.00** Racing News (8374583) **8.30** Fish TV (9675785) **9.30** Survival of the Fittest (4934673) **10.00** Ice Hockey: Nottingham v Bracknell (8452230) **12.30pm** Tennis: WTA Kremlin Cup (2936292) **2.30** Golf Extra (1837292) **6.00** Rebel Sports (1984358) **7.00** Sports Centre (2830495) **7.30** Golf Extra (7751308) **11.00** Euro Tour Weekly (7834414) **11.30** Sports Action (4841476) **12.00** Offshore Powerboats (8238490) **12.30am** Futbol Mundial (3949341) **1.00** Sports Centre (2817772) **1.30** Sport USA (2504698) **3.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wrestling (62191037) **1.00** Fish TV (62100785) **2.00** Superbouts (67582921) **3.00** Golden Olympics (30065230) **3.30** Rugby Union: European Cup (95424650) **5.30** Pool: World Championship (36297056) **6.30** Offshore Powerboats (55324834) **7.00** Fish TV (89760259) **8.00** Sport USA (34947105) **9.30** Windsurfing: World Tour (82192785) **10.00** Sportrals (85784582) **10.30** Golden Age of Motor Racing (42512788) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogoals (92327) **8.00** UEFA Cup (79495) **10.00** UEFA Cup (10414) **11.30** Wheelies (39143) **12.00** ATP Tour Review (37360) **12.30pm** Tennis: Kremlin Cup — Live! (46650) **2.30** UEFA Cup (897501) [illegible] Tennis: Stockholm ATP Tournament — Live (78747) **7.00** Bowling: World Games (58308) **8.00** Speed Darts World Challenge (65068) **9.00** Boxing — Live (68143) **11.00** Golf: WPG European Tour Season Review (39292) **12.00** World Cup Dream Team (85322) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Worzel Gummidge (2947817) **7.35** Neighbours (8856230) **8.00** Crossroads (3438018) **8.25** EastEnders (1825495) **9.00** The Bill (8368582) **9.30** Howards' Way (8398940) **10.00** Bless This House (6520898) **10.30** The Sullivans (8384768) **11.00** Boon (4587872) **12.00** Crossroads (14146598) **12.25pm** Neighbours (14149785) **12.55** EastEnders (7491495) **1.30** Hi-De-Hi (3765230) **2.10** Yes Minister (7211582) **2.50** Are You Being Served? (2977105) **3.30** The Bill (7288018) **4.00** Juliet Bravo (78234583) **5.05** EastEnders (6050292) **5.40** Bob's Full House (7898414) **6.25** That's Showbusiness (8822018) **7.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4962211) **7.45** Don't Wait Up (1119150) **8.20** Yes Minister (1153582) **9.00** The Bill (1075747) **9.30** The Chief (25249563) **10.35** The Black Adder (8847358) **11.20** Live at Jongleurs (6456259) **11.50** Naked Video (5780360) **12.25am** Chancer (7971457) **1.20** Miami Vice (2313709) **2.10** Shopping (70964998)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (3162114) **7.00** Coronation St (8816921) **7.30** Families (8635056) **8.00** Surprise Surprise (8840698) **9.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (8324563) **10.00** The Professionals (8824940) **11.00** Hart to Hart (8611476) **12.00** Coronation St (4965722) **12.30pm** Families (2158501) **1.00** Blind Date (2166056) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3724058) **3.00** Donahue (9960292) **4.00** The Professionals (8909327) **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (1807785) **6.00** Families (2941327) **6.30** Coronation St (2932679) **7.00** Stand Up (7503476) **7.30** UEFA Champions League (7184650) **10.00** Hawaii Five-O (7502747) **11.00** Close

Action in *The Railway Children* (Sky Movies Gold, 6.00pm)

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo's Circus (16891) **6.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (12650) **7.00** Aladdin: The Series (67898) **7.30** Quack Pack (46105) **8.00** Dinosaurs (83835) **8.30** Bonkers (33376) **9.00** Gummi Bears (95308) **9.30** Grounding Marsh (1178124) **9.55** Small Stories (8693834) **10.00** Sesame Street (42389) **11.00** Winnie the Pooh (5857230) **11.15** Rosie and Jim (8826940) **11.35** Sing Me a Story with Belle (1107921) **12.00** Tots TV (8539679) **12.20pm** Disney Shorts (8861853) **12.25** Big Garage (6541414) **12.45** Winnie the Pooh (74184259) **1.00** Sesame Street (30969) **2.00** Amazing Animals (1258) **2.30** Gummi Bears (6679) **3.00** Tale Spin (1786) **3.30** Goof Troop (1124) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (3718) **4.30** Aladdin: The Series (9143) **5.00** Gargoyles (5211) **5.30** Dinosaurs (1595) **6.00** Blossom (7308) **6.30** Boy Meets World (1360) **7.00** Home Improvement (2747) **7.30** The Wonder Years (5312) **8.00** FILM: **The Annette Funicello Story** (1992) (78292) **9.30** Dave's World (15650)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Dafly (3776969) **6.30** Billy the Cat (1135143) **7.00** Pinocchio (4631259) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (4510766) **8.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs (6068037) **8.30** Masked Rider (6065308) **9.00** Magic Box (6049360) **9.30** Dudley the Dragon (4005969) **10.00** Inspector Gadget (1126495) **10.30** Samurai Pizza Cats (6078872) **11.00** Sweet Valley High (4529414) **12.00** Ace Ventura (6069124) **12.30pm** Casper (4009785) **1.00** The Tick (4523230) **1.30** Iron Man (4008056) **2.00** Fantastic Four (7693582) **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo (5370211) **3.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs (7689389) **3.30** Masked Rider (5382056) **4.00** Ace Ventura (5361563) **4.30** Casper (5367747) **5.00** The Tick (7684834) **5.30** X Men (5381327) **6.00** Spiderman (6371940) **6.30** Sweet Valley High (5362292) **7.00** Close

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After (11495) **6.30** Bobby's World (25124) **7.00** Spirou (63872) **7.30** Dennis the Menace (59679) **8.00** Batman (18259) **8.30** Bots Master (33330) **9.00** Art Attack (81582) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (37872) **10.00** Gravedale High (15476) **10.30** Flash Gordon (97766) **11.00** Iznogoud (56834) **11.30** Gigantor (57563) **12.00** Gravedale High (89018) **12.30pm** Bots Master (97560) **1.00** Batman (62143) **1.30** Eek (47259) **2.00** Spirou (4105) **2.30** Flash Gordon (2853) **3.00** Sonic (6940) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (4898) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (3105) **4.30** Art Attack (9389)

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from *5.00am to 9.00pm, seven days a week*

NICKELODEON

6.00am Killer Tomatoes (68921) **6.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (28698) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (33018) **7.30** Rugrats (45853) **8.00** Doug (47747) **8.30** Neverending Story (46018) **9.00** CBBC (82969) **10.00** Wimzie's House (79150) **10.30** Babar (59582) **11.00** Magic School Bus (93760) **11.30** Bananas in Pyjamas (19389) **12.00** Paddington Bear etc (40834) **12.30pm** Little Red Tractor etc (77476) **1.00** Dr Seuss (32389) **1.30** Little Bear Stories (76747) **2.00** Animal Show (9259) **2.30** CBBC (1989) **3.00** CBBC (8796) **3.30** Rocko/Doug (6414) **4.00** Angry Beavers (5921) **4.30** Rugrats (1105) **5.00** Sister Sister (9211) **5.30** Kenan and Kel (5785) **6.00** Sabrina (2698) **6.30** Moesha (8550) **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00pm Swan's Crossing (6373414) **12.30** Ready or Not (9394124) **1.00** Madison (4583058) **1.30** California Dreams (9393495) **2.00** Saved by the Bell (6530563) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (7201969) **3.00** Blast (6559698) **3.30** Ready or Not (7208414) **4.00** Saved by the Bell (7285921) **4.30** USA High (7281105) **5.00** Hangtime (6554143) **5.30** California Dreams (7205785) **6.00** Blast (7202898) **6.30** Madison (7286650) **7.00** Hangtime (6541679) **7.30** USA High (7262634) **8.00** Close

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (8705105) **9.00** Tour of Duty (6725969) **10.00** Red Shoe Diaries (9194230) **10.45** FILM: **American Yakuza** (1993) (4603872) **12.45am** Tour of Duty (5187790) **1.45** Red Shoe Diaries (2965326) **2.30** FILM: **Over the Edge** (1979) (4338898) **4.30** The Maxx (6532235) **5.00** The A-Team (6828341)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (4637) **7.30** Roseanne (2834) **8.00** Ellen (9495) **8.30** Cybill (1230) **9.00** Cheers (21134) **9.30** Taxi (80940) **10.00** Frasier (41563) **10.30** The Kenny Everett Show (50211) **11.00** Gayle's World (93969) **11.30** Ellen (79114) **12.00** Roseanne (99896) **12.30am** Nightstand (59419) **1.00** Soap (15235) **1.30** Taxi (54612) **2.00** Gayle's World (83709) **2.30** Grace Under Fire (95544) **3.00** Frasier (35089) **3.30** The Kenny Everett Show (86896) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (8260489) **8.30** Sightings (3010786) **9.00** FILM: **Downdraft** (4887582) **11.00** Friday the 13th (2187495) **12.00** Sightings (6940438) **1.00am** Twilight Zone (6932148) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (6124308) **2.00** Dark Shadows (1316780) **2.30** New Hitchcock (1335815) **3.00** Friday the 13th (7047419) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting (8366124) **9.30** Garden Calendar (9398582) **10.00** Great Gardening Plot (6611940) **10.30** New Yankee Workshop (8382308) **11.00** Rex Hunt (1086853) **11.30** Hometime (1087582) **12.00** The Close Guide (8346360) **12.30pm** Two's Country (9307698) **1.00** Just for Starters (4569230) **1.30** Our House (9306969) **2.00** Furniture to Go (6543037) **2.30** Homemaker (7207143) **3.00** Two's Country (6555872) **3.30** This Old House (7279380) **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Diceman (7298495) **4.30** Driving Passions (7294679) **5.00** Ancient Warriors (6534389) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (7218259) **6.00** Deadly Australians (7208872) **6.30** Deadly Australians (7289124) **7.00** World of Strange Powers (6547853) **7.30** Wonders of Weather (7295308) **8.00** Mysterious Universe (6556501) **8.30** Super Natural (6542308) **9.00** Raging Planet (6721143) **10.00** Raging Planet (6724230) **11.00** Extreme Machines (4553679) **12.00** Fightline (3141709) **12.30am** Driving Passions (5807983) **1.00** Wonders of Weather (6557544) **1.30** Beyond 2000 (2245896) **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Endangered: Esperanza (7804698) **7.30** The Eagle and the Snake (5368476) **8.00** Piranha! (7890018) **8.30** Snake Bite! (7892853) **9.00** Lions of the African Night (3954380) **10.00** Champions of the Wave (3964747) **11.00** They Never Set Foot on the Moon (4517679) **12.00** Endangered: Esperanza (3732525) **12.30am** The Eagle and the Snake (5074506) **1.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Vietnam, the Ten Thousand Day War (7833785) **5.00** The Lost Ark (2839766) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries: Astrology (1984358) **7.00** Biography: Alexandra Kollontai (2729143) **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.00pm Cross Wits (8785) **5.30** Say the Word (3969) **6.00** Family Fortunes (3582) **6.30** Catchphrase (4834) **7.15** The $64,000 Question (302360) **8.00** Split Second (586018) **8.30** Move on Up (3476) **9.15** Winner Takes All (296211) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (96817) **11.15** Whittle (283747) **12.00** Say the Word (36070) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (21047) **1.30** The Big Valley (20302) **2.30** Big Brother Jake (35790) **3.00** My Two Dads (59693) **3.30** Where I Live (24070) **4.00** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga (47167) **5.00** Shopping (66831)

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** I Dream of Jeannie **9.30** Gordon Elliott **10.10** Jerry Springer **11.00** Young and the Restless **11.50** Brookside **12.20pm** Why Me? **1.00** Tempestt **1.50** Ready, Steady, Cook **2.30** Cheap Chic **3.00** Live at Three **4.05** Jerry Springer **5.00** Rolonda **5.50** Lucky Ladders **6.20** Ready, Steady, Cook **7.00** Hearts Afire **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Adrenalin Junkies **9.00** FILM: **Martha, Ruth and Edie** **11.00** Spicy Sex Files **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

6.30am Nagar Pane Roop Nagar **7.00** Jaagran **7.30** Ghoomta Aana **8.00** Cricket **4.00pm** Public Demand **5.00** ZEE Zone **5.30** Teen Do Panch **6.00** Hum Paanch **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Liberty **7.30** Banegi Apni Baat **8.00** News **8.30** Dastaan **9.00** Pal Do Pal **10.00** Filmi Bestein **10.30** ZEE Hit Parade **11.00** Purush Kshetra **11.30** Sizzlers **12.00** Close

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new sounds

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RACING 47

Favourite holds on to bring home Melbourne Cup

SPORT

GOLF 50

Olazabal's recovery makes for memorable year

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

BAF cash crisis takes heavy toll

Britain drop top coaches in shake-up

By John Goodbody

SOME of Great Britain's most distinguished coaches, who have produced Olympic and world champions such as Sally Gunnell and Jonathan Edwards, were yesterday among 21 people made redundant by the British Athletic Federation (BAF).

Administrators at the national governing body are to pay off Bruce Longden, mentor of Gunnell, and Carl Johnson, coach to Edwards, in reducing the total BAF payroll from 34 to 13. The national governing body faces debts of £500,000 and has running costs of £130,000 a month.

However, many of the coaches may be employed by constituent members of the BAF, such as the Amateur Athletic Association of England, with assets of more than £1 million, or by the individual athletes.

Jayne Pearce, the BAF spokeswomen, said: "Dave Moorcroft [the new chief executive] and the rest of the professional staff in our office will, for the time being, carry on, but the future is by no means certain."

Moorcroft, who took up his £70,000-a-year job only a month ago, vowed that British athletics would be in a better long-term position after the administrators had completed their job and he stressed that the crisis would not prevent top-level athletes from competing in international events.

The former world 5,000 metres record-holder said: "I think in the long term there will be a better structure for the delivery of the sport in this country. It's really depressing to see the administrators making these decisions, but you have got to be positive and think something better and stronger will come out of it."

Moorcroft told *Radio 5 Live*: "At the moment, it is very difficult to be positive. You have to feel sorry for the 21 people who have lost their jobs."

As well as Longden and Johnson, the BAF is likely to lose Peter Warden, the North West coach, David Lease, in the West, Brad McStravick, in the North East, and Brian Hall, Andy Vince and Phil Banning, the national coaches of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales respectively.

Pearce said: "We are hoping that the coaches will be able to to carry on with their roles in some shape or form, perhaps with funding from the region. However, we are not able to fund them. It is obviously a very sad day for everyone at the BAF."

Arnold: excellence

The BAF still has four technical directors — Norman Brook (endurance), Graham Knight (sprints and hurdles), Max Jones (throws) and Tudor Bidder (jumps and combined events) — and they will oversee the top 190 athletes under the direction of Malcolm Arnold.

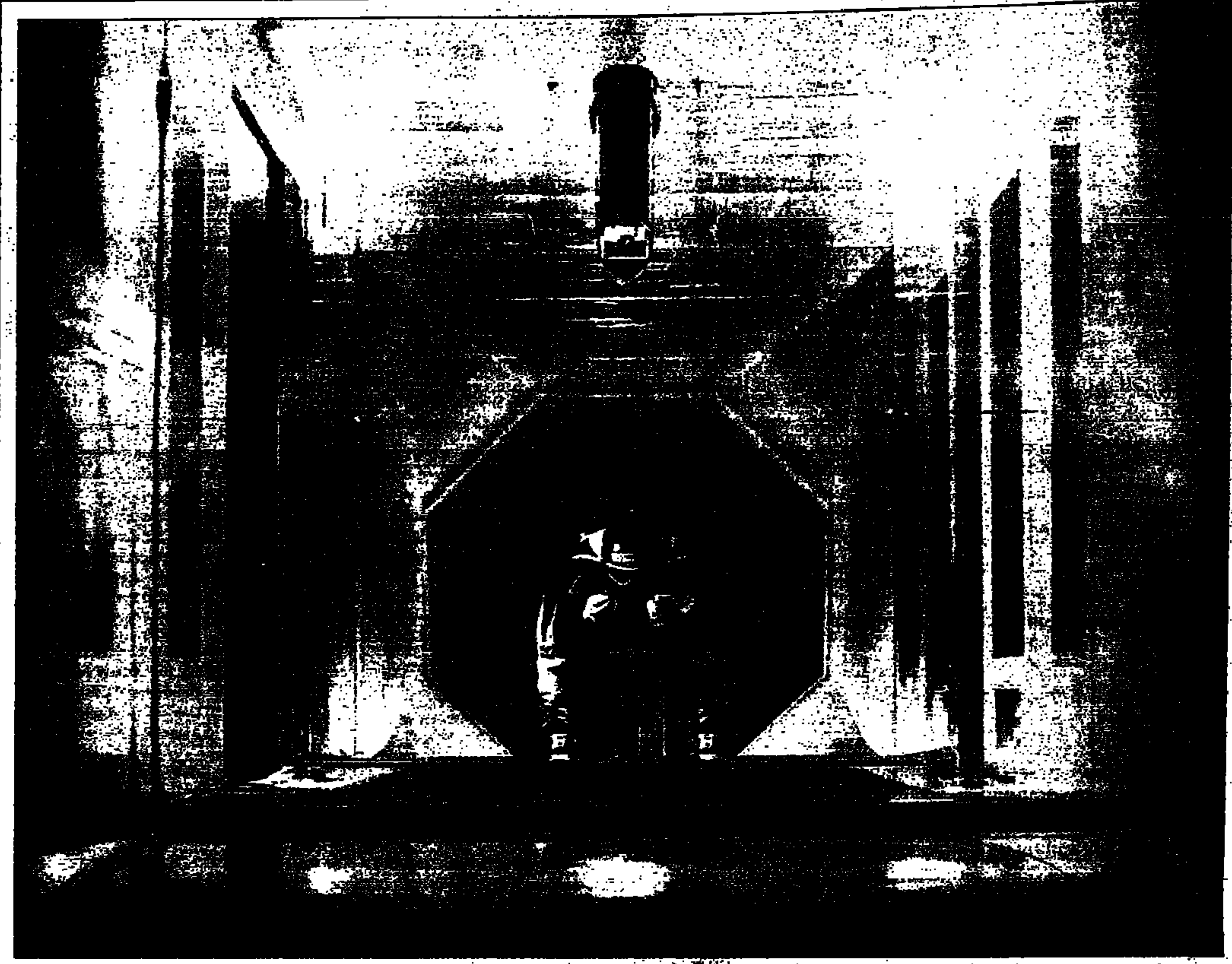
Arnold said: "I am just hoping that the other organisations in athletics will help in the short term. We are looking now at a leaner, meaner machine, a more professional set-up. There remains a residual excellence in the sport. Britain are, after all, European Cup-holders."

He forecast that, unless more money became available, the sport would suffer in the long term, with the danger that youngsters would go out of athletics. Technical publications, for which British athletics is renowned, would also be affected. Longden said that he had feared the redundancies would be coming. He agreed with Arnold that youngsters would be the ones to "miss out."

"The top echelon is ringfenced," he said, "but the youngsters will be thinking: 'How am I going to break through in this sport?' There may not be the regional support. We are responsible for the education courses and the performance training weekends. Who is now going to pay for these facilities?"

The Birmingham-based BAF, formed in 1991 despite constant bickering among its national and regional constituent members, has been dogged by financial problems. Television revenue and sponsorship have fallen. Much of the television money and sponsorship money have often gone to other flourishing organisations in athletics, such as the London Marathon, with its own office, professional staff and high profile. The BAF has also had to suffer hefty legal costs.

The BAF has not ruled out selling its own premises in an attempt to avert bankruptcy, while the immediate future of domestic showpiece events remains shrouded in uncertainty because of the financial problems. The answer to its troubles may be a national registration scheme, which exists in other Olympic sports, such as swimming, rowing, judo and weighdifting. Even at £10 per head, this could raise an estimated £1 million a year, with the BAF also able to sell its registration list to sports goods manufacturers.



Graham Bell, the leading British downhill skier, tests the new Jordan wind tunnel in Brackley, Northamptonshire. The tunnel has been built to enhance training facilities for the 1998 Winter Olympic Games. Photograph: Mike Cooper / Allsport

Contrite Tyson says he fears life ban

From Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, in Las Vegas

MIKE TYSON believes that he will never get back his licence to box. The former world heavyweight champion, who was indefinitely suspended for biting a piece out of Evander Holyfield's ear in a world title bout in June, told ABC television in New York on Monday night: "Truly, I think I'll be banned for the rest of my life."

It was Tyson's first appearance on network television since being disqualified and forced out of boxing in disgrace. Tyson said: "I truly think everyone hates me. I truly believe that, because no one gets punished more than I am. But I understand. I'm a big boy and I believe big boys have big ordeals to be dealt with."

Tyson thought that people wanted him to beg for mercy. "I'm not that way," he said. "This is who I am and maybe sometimes it's the insecurity. I want to be the defiant person. That's part of my insecurity but, you know, it's just who I am."

Having viewed tapes of the biting incident, Tyson said that his action left him with a feeling of "disgust, disdain and humiliation". He added: "I shouldn't have done that. It was just striking out and totally hatred right there. I shouldn't have done that, because that was one moment, I just forgot he was a human being.

"It was extremeness. There was some serious stuff going on in my head. I just snapped. I was no longer playing under the rules. Any kind of functional thinking, any kind of rational thinking, that was totally out the window. Once the boundaries were crossed, I had no more respect for the rules."

Tyson, who was joined for part of the interview by his wife, Dr Monica Turner, and three of their children, said he was undergoing therapy. "It's kind of scary to change and feel a little helpless in changing," he said. "We are working on it and hopefully it will turn out better. I don't know why I'm afraid to change. I change in increments. It's not going to happen overnight."

Tyson: interview

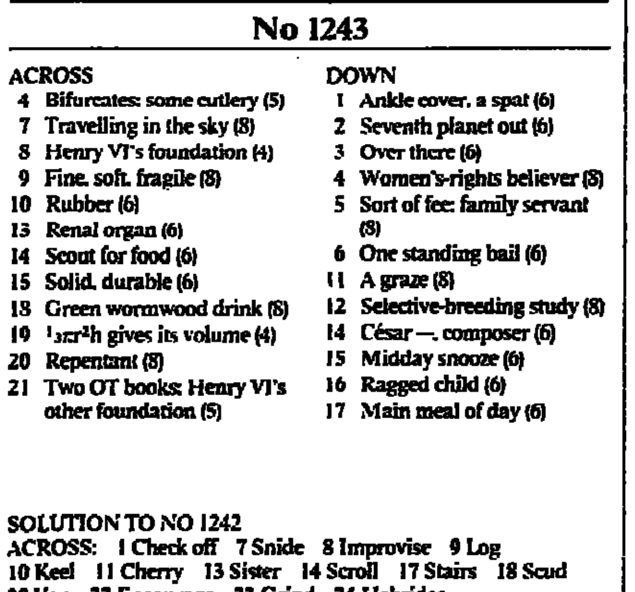
Holyfield said he forgave Tyson, but did not think they would meet in the ring again. "He is sorry and he felt that he did it out of anger, which everyone knows," Holyfield said. "I'm friends with him anyway. I love him, I forgive him. It's not so much that he has to apologise, he did already, but I don't think I would fight him [again]."

Tyson's fears are understandable, for, immediately after the bout, many people said that they wanted him banned for life. They were disappointed that the Nevada State Athletic Commission told Tyson he could make an application for a licence after a year. The decision to give an interview could be part of an attempt to condition the thinking of the commission, especially as it is generally believed that it will almost certainly extend the ban for another year.

An exclusion of 12 months is regarded in boxing as being no punishment at all, but Tyson's moroseness is not reflected in the thinking of the casinos here. Even though MGM Grand has ended its deal with Don King, Tyson's promoter, the casino is not against looking at Tyson contests if and when he gets his licence back.

Bill Doak, the publicity director of MGM, said: "When he gets his licence, we will look at his fights, case by case."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1243

ACROSS
4 Bifurcates: some cutlery (5)
7 Travelling in the sky (8)
8 Henry VI's foundation (4)
9 Fine, soft, fragile (8)
10 Rubber (6)
13 Renal organ (6)
14 Scout for food (6)
15 Solid, durable (6)
18 Green wormwood drink (8)
19 $\frac{1}{3}\pi r^2h$ gives its volume (4)
20 Repentant (8)
21 Two OT books: Henry VI's other foundation (5)

DOWN
1 Ankle cover, a spat (6)
2 Seventh planet out (6)
3 Over there (6)
4 Women's-rights believer (8)
5 Sort of fee: family servant (8)
6 One standing bail (6)
11 A graze (8)
12 Selective-breeding study (8)
14 César —, composer (6)
15 Midday snooze (6)
16 Ragged child (6)
17 Main meal of day (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 1242
ACROSS: 1 Check off 7 Snide 8 Improvise 9 Log 10 Keel 11 Cherry 13 Sister 14 Scroll 17 Stairs 18 Scud 20 Van 22 Encourage 23 Grind 24 Hebrides
DOWN: 1 Chink 2 Express 3 Knob 4 Flight 5 Billy 6 Seagull 7 Secrecy 12 Delayed 13 Salvage 15 Orchard 16 Oracle 17 Snail 19 Dress 21 Ruhr

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West Ham spark blackout inquiry

By Russell Kempson

WEST Ham United are still investigating the cause of the floodlight failure that resulted in their FA Carling Premiership match against Crystal Palace being abandoned after 66 minutes on Monday night. The board of the FA Premier League, which runs the Premiership, has also asked for a report on why the lights went out at Upton Park.

Twelve seconds after Frank Lampard had equalised for West Ham, completing their comeback from 2-0 down, the ground was plunged into darkness. Despite efforts to find the fault, the game was called off half an hour later, at 9.50pm. A date has yet to be set for the rearranged fixture.

Season ticket-holders will not be affected, but other supporters have been advised to retain their ticket stubs while the club considers offering reduced prices. There will be no refunds, in accordance with League regulations, and it is unlikely that the fans will be given free admission.

"There was a fault at the South End, which controls the floodlights for both ends of the ground, and it was impossible to find in the time available," Peter Storrie, the West Ham managing director, said. "Everything has now got to be thoroughly checked and rechecked and that's what we're doing."

For David Elleray, the referee, it was a familiar experience. It was the fourth time in his career that the floodlights had failed while he was officiating — the last being at Crystal Palace. "It was a great shame," he said. "The game was flowing nicely and it hardly needed a ref."

It is the second time this season that a Premiership match has been abandoned because of floodlight failure. Derby County were leading Wimbledon 2-1 in August when a circuit-breaker, which had been set too low, shut off the lights at Pride Park after 57 minutes.

Derby carried out an investigation after the game was called off and its findings were accepted by the Premier League. When the game was restaged last month — spectators were allowed in free — it ended in a 1-1 draw.

Elleray: no choice

West Ham also had to contend with problems off the pitch on Monday night after John Hartson, their Wales striker, was the subject of allegations of drunkenness in an Essex hotel last Thursday morning. He was reportedly arrested by police but subsequently let off with a warning.

"We have spoken to John and he said it was something and nothing," Storrie said. "There was an incident, but it was sorted out. We are happy with his explanation."

Celtic bringing Lambert home

By Kevin McCarra

CELTIC are to sign Paul Lambert from Borussia Dortmund later this week for £1.75 million. He would then be able to make his debut for the club against Rangers on Saturday.

The transfer is another significant episode in a career that has taken onlookers by surprise. In the summer of 1996, he was a midfield player of modest reputation at Motherwell, but the Bosman ruling persuaded Dortmund to risk employing him since they did not have to pay a fee to the Scottish club. Since then, Lambert has collected a European Cup-winners' medal, having exerted great influence in the 3-1 victory over Juventus in the final, and become a key member of the Scotland team.

He has continued to appear regularly for Dortmund this season, but the club has a new coach, Nevio Scala, who was prepared to countenance the sale. Celtic first considered purchasing him in January and, despite a change of manager, when Wim Jansen was appointed, that interest did not abate, even though negotiations have been tortuous.

Dortmund play Parma in the Champions' League this evening and Lambert, 28, will not be allowed to travel to Glasgow to conclude the deal until tomorrow.

Celtic's backroom upheaval has claimed another casualty, with the departure of David Hay, the assistant general manager, just a week after Danny Crainie, the youth coach, was also deemed surplus to requirements at Parkhead.

This is the second time that Hay has parted company with the club, having been dismissed as manager in 1987. He was brought as chief scout under Tommy Burns three years ago and acted as caretaker before the arrival of Jansen in the summer.

Darren Jackson, the Celtic striker, was back on target yesterday two months after brain surgery. Jackson, making his first appearance at Parkhead since his operation, equalised for the reserves in their 2-2 draw against Dunfermline, steering home a pass from Tommy Johnson.

Fearful Feyenoord 48
Positive Dalglish 48
Rioch eyes vacancy 48

Jackson had earlier shown no reservations about heading the ball, powering one effort against the crossbar. He played for the full 90 minutes and Jansen must have been impressed with his display in his third comeback match.

Steve Corica, the Wolverhampton Wanderers midfield player, has been ruled out for the rest of the season and will miss the World Cup finals if Australia qualify. Corica, 24, who has played only two minutes of first-team football this season, has undergone a total reconstruction of the knee on which he had cruciate ligament surgery in the spring.

"There's no explanation why the operation failed and it's just a case now of Steve going through the whole process again," Mark McGhee, the Wolves manager, said. "It is very disappointing for him, especially in World Cup year."

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